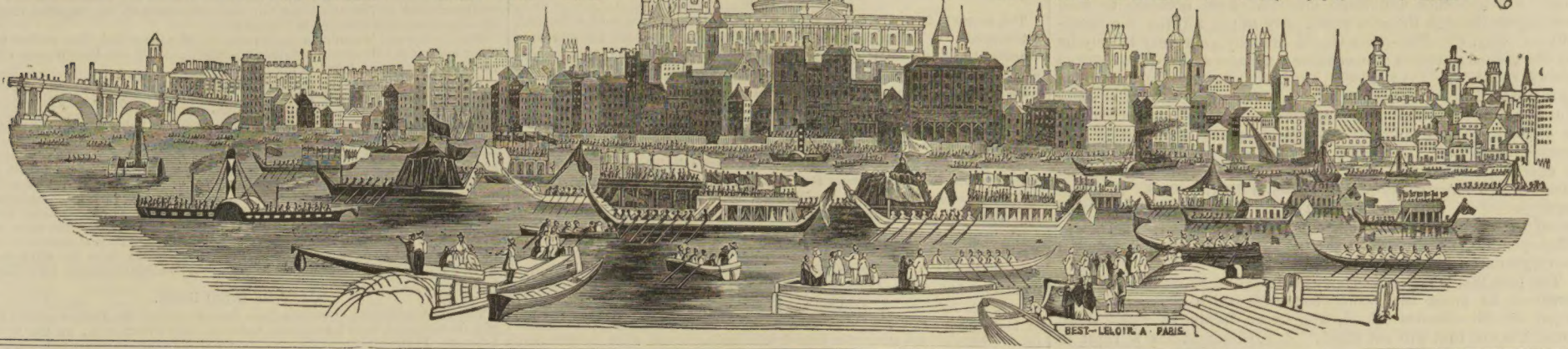


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1850.

[SIXPENCE. { WITH SUPPLEMENT GRATIS.

THE TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE AND OPINION.

THE motion of Mr. Milner Gibson for the Repeal of the Taxes on Paper, Newspapers, Advertisements, and Foreign Books, though opposed by a Government that seems to have as great an antipathy to the mental as it has to the physical enlightenment of the people, if either of these questions threaten to give it trouble in the equalization of income with expenditure, is one of those motions which defeat cannot destroy, or even postpone for any lengthened period.

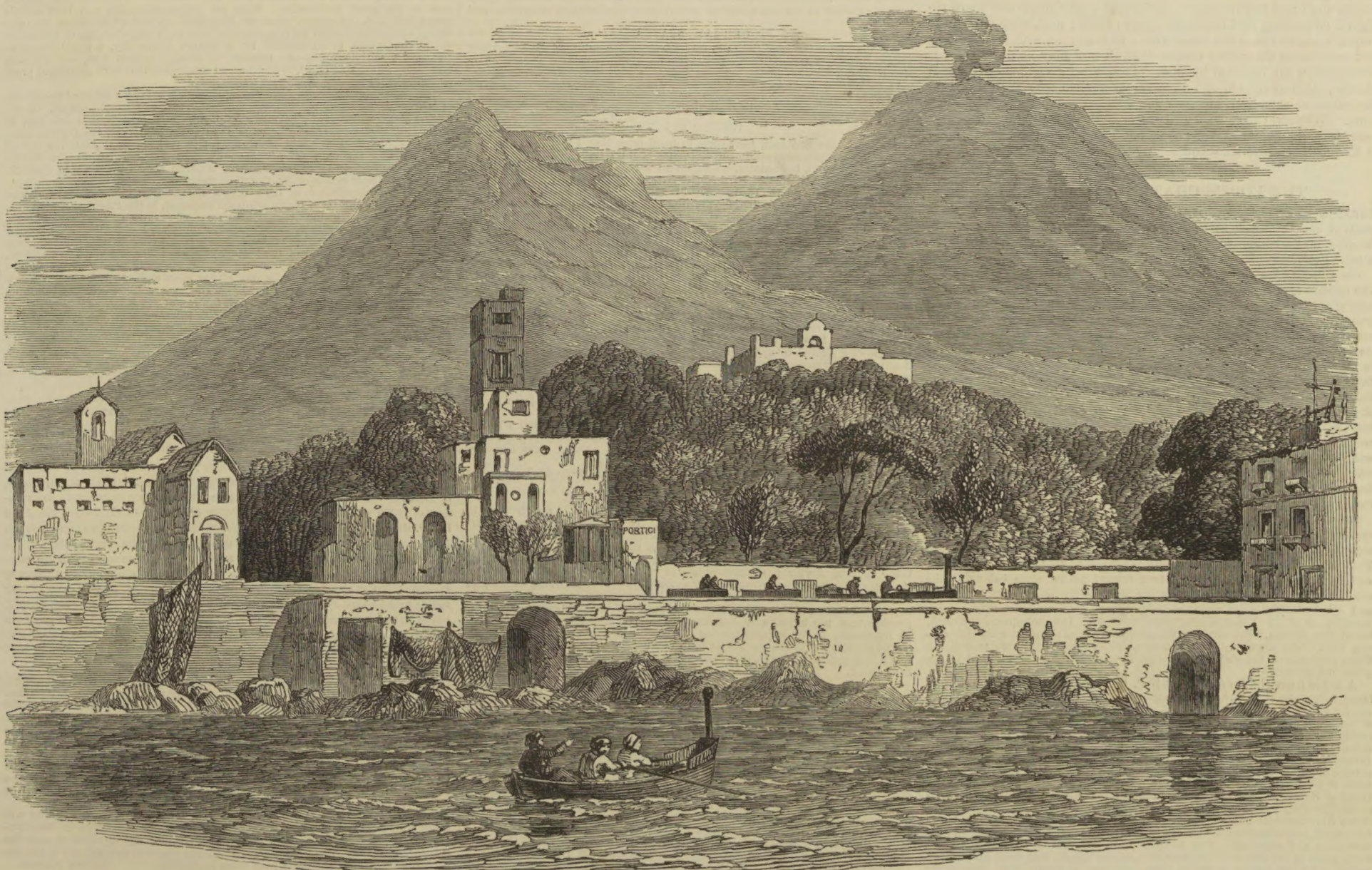
We have already expressed our opinion at considerable length upon the two most important of the four subjects—all closely related—which Mr. Milner Gibson, in his very temperate and effective speech, brought before the notice of the Legislature, on Tuesday evening. We can do no more than reiterate generally the arguments we have previously used in support of the immediate abolition of the Excise Duty on Paper and upon Advertisements in Newspapers. In a purely trading or commercial point of view, those taxes are highly objectionable. They prevent the employment of vast numbers of industrious people; they restrict the business, not only of the paper-maker, but of the rag-merchant, the machinist, the type-founder, the compositor, the bookbinder, the bookseller, and the author. The Advertisement Duty stands between the buyer and the seller, and between the employer and the employed; and is, in effect, a tax upon commerce and upon industry. All these points were well argued by Mr. Gibson, and have been so often brought before the public, and so often proved to the satisfaction of all intelligent minds, that they have become truisms. The question, however, stands upon higher grounds than these. It is not merely a commercial matter, but one which affects our national character for intelligence and morality, and upon which the future fate of this country, amid the troubles of Europe, may ultimately depend in no inconsiderable degree. It is well known to all persons connected, however remotely, with literature, and ought to be known to the legislators of the nation, that, under the present

law, the vilest and most degrading fictions, the most libellous, scurrilous, and paltry publications, abominable for their matter, contemptible for their manner, and printed on the most wretched paper and in the most inferior style of typography, find a large and increasing sale; whilst periodical works conducted with honesty and ability, capable of elevating the minds and polishing the manners of the people, and of instructing them in their duty to God and to one another, are crushed under the operation of the Excise duty upon paper. These facts may be said to be patent, and to be incapable of contradiction by any friend of the truth. Upon these points, as upon those which were merely commercial, Mr. Milner Gibson put his case with great clearness and energy. Should there be still in England any persons in the condition of those antediluvian intellects who dread that a reading people must necessarily be a dangerous people, we advise them to study well the whole bearing of the facts which have been brought forward; and decide whether it is better that the people should continue to read the abominations of the Holywell-street press, as they do now, or that they should be enabled to store their minds with the reading placed weekly before them, for the inculcation of honesty and truth and the laws of social well-being. This matter is indeed a serious one, and has lately assumed a character so alarming as to call for the prompt interference of all who value English morality and religion; and who do not desire that this country should be indoctrinated with the vulgar, heartless, and godless licentiousness, which always precedes and hastens revolution.

The question of the repeal of the Import Duty on Foreign Books is a very simple one. There is not a syllable to be said in its favour. The amount it yields is paltry; its opposition to the true principles of commerce is palpable; and the injury it inflicts upon those learned men who cultivate a love for foreign literature, and diffuse what is good in it among the people of England, is considerable. Never had an impost a more wretched leg to stand upon; and we suppose that even our present Chancellor of the Exche-

quer would yield it up in a moment upon its own merits, were it not that, by so doing, he would weaken to some extent the citadel of his opposition to the other three taxes with which it is associated.

The Stamp Duty on Newspapers appears to differ from the other branches of the subject, but it only differs because a question of the Post-office has been mixed up with it. The two, however, are easily separated. As regards the first, we are aware that numbers of very estimable people are of opinion that newspapers are rightly subjected to a stamp, for the sake of the public interest, and to keep the highly important business of newspaper-making in the hands of men of capital and responsibility, in order that private character may not be assailed by men of straw, and that the State may have some little guarantee that the men who wield such great and increasing power may not be altogether irresponsible for its exercise. Unhappily, however, the Stamp Duty on Newspapers—if this be really its object—does not attain the end in view. Men of straw and men of infamous character publish periodicals; and, as long as they do not promulgate the public news of the day, and the facts of our social and political condition, which we see in the stamped journals, they pay no duty, and carry on an unimpeded and unrestricted trade of libel and defamation. We will not serve the purposes of such literary bravos by even mentioning the names of their despicable journals. As Mr. Milner Gibson expressed it, "under the present system of Stamp Duties, truth is taxed, and lying is untaxed." If this tax were abolished, the principal and speedy result would be an extended sale for newspapers of the superior kind, and the gradual extinction of the infamous class of publications. At present the newspaper is rendered so dear by the combined operation of the excise duty upon paper and the stamp duty upon each impression, that the poor man cannot afford to purchase it. He goes into a public-house to read it, and pays for the liquor which he consumes over the operation more money than would enable him, if those taxes were repealed, to purchase a good paper and read it to his family at his own fire-side. We think



PORTICI—THE RECENT RESIDENCE OF THE POPE SKETCHED FROM THE SEA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

that even Sir Charles Wood might confess that it would be better for the poor man, better for trade, and better for the morality and happiness of the country, that such should be the case.

As regards the plea that this tax is necessary for the purpose of the Post-office, we hold it to be entirely an error and a misconception. No one desires that the Post-office should be compelled to carry newspapers post free; but surely it would meet the necessities of the Post-office, and the justice of the case, if the penny stamp, instead of being branded on the corner of all newspapers, in order that a proportion of them may pass the Post-office, were affixed, as it is now, upon letters. By this means the Post-office would lose nothing; and those only who have occasion to send newspapers through the post would have to pay for the accommodation. Nay, the Post-office would actually gain very largely by the change. At present a newspaper may pass and re-pass a dozen times through the Post-office; but if the stamp were affixed, as upon a letter, it would have to pay each time of transmission; and thus the Post-office would gain an amount of revenue which would be probably a four-fold, or six-fold, increase upon the sum at present derivable. The plea is in other respects unfair, as will be at once understood from the fact that the Post-office grants no exception to newspapers passing through district posts. A newspaper posted in London and sent to any part of London pays a penny postage, notwithstanding the stamp upon it. This Post-office plea for the retention of the stamp, we therefore hold, on every ground, to be utterly worthless.

The plea that there is no surplus of revenue to enable the Government to grant the boon demanded, which was obstinately urged by Sir Charles Wood, and more feebly by Lord John Russell, is one that will not stand. A government has a right to the money necessary for carrying on the affairs of the State; but it has no right to raise the sum required by taxes that impede trade and thereby diminish the public wealth, or that injuriously affect the health or the morals of the people. It cannot be said that the excise duty upon paper, the stamp on newspapers, and the advertisement duty do not injuriously affect trade, and prevent the dissemination of healthful literature. It is the business of members of Parliament, speaking in the interests of their constituents, to press for the repeal of unjust or impolitic taxation. It is not their business to suggest a substitute. Mr. Gibson is quite right in stating that if a member of Parliament were to wait, previous to asking the House to express an opinion upon the policy of particular taxes, until there was a clear surplus, and no way pointed out of applying that surplus, he would never have an opportunity of submitting such a motion. At all times Government managed to spend as much as it could get. The expenditure was always up to the revenue.

A wise Minister, by a judicious reduction of taxation, increases not only the public satisfaction and prosperity, but the national revenue; and the power of doing this is the test of a good financier. This, however, is not the *forte* of the present Government, as nothing seems more alien from the thoughts of Sir Charles Wood than that he should be driven into any such personally inconvenient piece of public usefulness. Lord John Russell wavers more than his financial colleague, and begins to see that, at some future day, it will be advisable to consider this great subject; and, notwithstanding the present defeat of the motion, the best friends of the prosperity and morality of the British people, and the stability of their institutions, will continue to press it upon the attention of this and every succeeding Ministry. Even the first object arrived at by Mr. Milner Gibson would be a blessing to the country: it would tend to spread abroad truth—to encourage temperance—to strengthen the religious sentiment, and to forward every good and holy work; and yet the Ministry that recklessly and mischievously throws away upon the African squadron double the amount acquired by the Exchequer from this impolitic tax, has the bad taste to talk of being unable to afford the sacrifice. If it were inconvenient at present to have repealed the Newspaper Stamp and Advertisement duty, the Government might easily have postponed those questions for an indefinite period, and entitled itself to the gratitude of the country by taking the exciseman out of the paper-mill. This it has not done, when it had the chance; and for this, as well as other gross errors, it will pay the penalty sooner or later, and be replaced by a Ministry which shall have the courage and ability to consider our system of taxation as a whole, and to re-model it upon principles which shall unfetter industry, trade, and commerce; and leave religion, education, and literature free to teach; and, what is of more importance, to reach the multitude. It is an idea with some people, not considered altogether insane, that all this may be done without diminishing the national income. They even go so far as to assert that a judicious reform of our financial system would attain these desirable objects, and increase the national revenue at the same time. Whatever may be the Ministry that shall attempt this great task, it is quite clear it will not be one in which Sir Charles Wood is Chancellor of the Exchequer.

THE POPE'S CHATEAU, AT PORTICI.

The Royal Palace of Portici has of late been a place of especial interest, as the abode of Pius IX., which his Holiness quitted on the 4th inst., for Rome. The details of his departure, and his journey to the Eternal City, will be found in the adjoining column.

The Palace of Portici lies at four miles distance, by railway, from Naples. The building does not present any remarkable features; on the contrary, it is an ugly pile, of quadrangular form, through which the main road passes, under arches at either end. A Correspondent, on a late visit there, found the courtyard of the Palace occupied by a few officers, and one or two Cardinal's carriages, which were so oddly built, as to remind him of those designed by artists in gingerbread. There was a melancholy quiet about the place. He heard nothing but the footfall of the sentinels, who guarded every doorway, and gave the Palace a prison-like appearance. His Holiness occupied that portion of the Royal residence which faces the sea. The building was erected by the Bourbon Charles III., about a century ago, and its foundation is formed of the lava which destroyed Herculaneum. Here the statue of Balbo the younger was found, and some curious pavements, which now decorate the Palace—the interior of which, however, presents little attraction, with the exception of one or two rooms decorated by the portraits of Napoleon, Murat, Massena, and others, which recall the French occupation of Italy.

The village of Portici was destroyed in 1631 by the same Vesuvius that still appears to threaten the Elysian coast. The town is long and straggling, with many imposing palaces, which the Neapolitans use for a few weeks in autumn. The lower, or ground floors of these palaces are chiefly used as macaroni shops; and here may be seen many a long row of yellow pipes baking in the sun. On either side of the street are small dirty shops, displaying fruit and bread—the latter, in varied circular forms, being nailed to long strips of boarding, as if the "staff of life" were fireworks. The accompanying Sketch, taken from the sea, represents the village of Portici, at the point where the railway passes, and affords by far the most pleasing view of the residence of the Pope, peeping over the *bosco*, the pleasure-grounds of the palace, backed by the grand old mountain.

A letter from Naples of the 1st inst. thus describes one of the Pope's latest receptions at Portici:—"The officers of the French squadron, headed by the Admiral and the Ambassador, M. de Rayneval, were received by the Pope, at the *Chateau* of Portici, on the 25th ult. There is nothing remarkable in this residence, except its situation: the furniture is very modest, the decorations faded, the saloons deserted. The staff assembled in a vast apartment which precedes the throne-room, and in which were several chamberlains, and the private secretary of the Pope, Monsignor Borromeo. On the invitation of the chief of the *camerieri*, and in conformity with the ceremonials adopted by the Court of Rome, all the officers took off their gloves before entering the throne-room. The Holy Father was standing, wearing a white cassock and cap. The arms of the Holy See were embroidered on his red-leather slippers. Pius IX. is of middle height, and somewhat stout. His features are soft, calm, and intelligent; his hair white and abundant. The Admiral, after having expressed to the Pope, in the name of the officers of the squadron, all the thanks they owed him for the audience he had deigned to accord them, said that he should have been proud

to have been able to escort him to his States. The Pope replied in Italian:—"I am happy, gentlemen, to receive the officers of the French squadron. I shall never forget what France has done for me, for the sake of the Church, and of the right which I derive from our divine religion. I know several officers of the French army, and always see them with pleasure; they have procured me during my stay at Gaëta all sorts of consolation. I could desire to bless France as I now bless you." At these words, all the officers inclined themselves, and MM. Perseval and Rayneval, kneeling, kissed the Pope's ring. The three chaplains of the squadron, who were present, kissed the Pope's slipper; and all then retired backwards from the presence of his Holiness."

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The accounts from Paris this week communicate intelligence of a dreadful catastrophe. On Tuesday last, while the 11th Regiment of Light Infantry were crossing the suspension-bridge over the Loire, at Angers, a great portion of the chain-work gave way, by which between 200 and 300 men fell into the river and were drowned. This melancholy fact was announced to the Assembly, on Wednesday, by the Minister of War, where it created a deep sensation. The Minister afterwards promised to afford all possible relief to the families of the unfortunate sufferers.

M. Eugène Sue, the well-known novelist, has been selected by the Socialists as their candidate at the ensuing Paris elections. The Conservative party are divided between M. Foy and M. Leclerc.

The Electoral Union Committee, who are not pleased at some of the Moderate party bringing forward M. Leclerc, have determined that a preparatory ballot shall take place, in order that the Conservative candidate shall be duly selected from a list that is then to be submitted to its members. The Moderates, on the other hand, have resolved to pay no attention to the demands of the Electoral Union; and insist on M. Leclerc being brought forward as their candidate. M. Leclerc is the gentleman who, when acting as a National Guard, and witnessing his eldest boy fall at his side pierced with balls, in the June insurrection, went home for his second son, and returned with him to the conflict.

In the Legislative Assembly on Monday evening, the subject of discussion being the budget, the Minister of Finance proposed that 717,000 francs be voted, in order that assistance might be granted to those distressed persons who should have a claim on the Government. M. Morin (de la Drôme) objected to the motion, upon the ground that political refugees ought not to partake of this vote, for it was offering a premium to rebellion. He concluded by proposing, as an amendment, a reduction of 300,000 francs, which was put and carried, amidst much unseemly violence of language and gesture. Another uproarious scene took place in the Assembly on Tuesday evening, upon M. Schœlcher moving an amendment restoring the grant to political sufferers. Members of all parties were speaking at one and the same time, and in the most vehement manner, so that it was difficult for the persons present to understand what was going on. At length the previous question was moved, and carried by 406 to 205.

At Wednesday's sitting, the credit of 1,200,000, for foreign refugees having been moved, M. Joly, of the Mountain, attacked the Government for expelling those individuals from the country instead of succouring them. The Minister replied, that those only had been expelled who had mixed themselves up with factions that threatened the peace of the country. The proposition was carried by 412 to 207.

The President of the Republic still assiduously pays court to the army. On Monday, he visited the military prison at St. Germain, where he granted a pardon to sixty of the convicts.

A Socialist riot occurred at Saumur, a day or two since, which rendered the interference of the military necessary. Some of the mob were injured in the affray, but the disturbance was soon put down.

ITALIAN STATES.

Rome.—At length the return of the Pope to Rome is a *fait accompli*. His Holiness left Portici on the 4th instant, escorted by Neapolitan and Roman Dragoons, and accompanied by the King of Naples and several members of the Royal family, together with their Eminences the Cardinal Antonelli, pro-secretary of State, and Cardinal Du Pont, Archbishop of Bourges; his Excellency Signor Garibaldi, the Apostolic Nuncio at Naples, and the whole of the Pontifical Court. On the 6th he crossed the frontier, and entered his own dominions at Terracina, where he passed through a triumphal arch, amidst the roar of artillery and the acclamations of the people. The keys of the city were presented to his Holiness as a mark of submission; and he then alighted at a church in the vicinity, at the doors of which he was received by his Eminence the Cardinal Asquini, who had preceded him by a few hours. Having given his blessing, he proceeded to the palace, accompanied by the Bishop of Terracina. At this place the King of Naples and his suite took leave of the Sovereign Pontiff, who then proceeded by Frosinone, Velletri, and a *lano*, to Rome, where he arrived on Friday, the 12th instant, at four o'clock in the afternoon, amidst the enthusiastic greetings of the citizens and the thunder of artillery. His escort from Albano consisted of French troops.

An amnesty, it is said, will be granted, from which only seventy persons will be excluded. The Cardinal Vicar has distributed 25,000 dols. in the name of his Holiness to the poor of the capital. The *employés* also are to be reinstated where serious misconduct is not proved. Three very important plans are said to have been prepared at Naples, one for an organic settlement of the constitution, a second for a criminal, and a third for a civil code, of which the details will be shortly known.

Piedmont.—From Turin we learn that on the 8th inst. the Senate passed, by considerable majority, the laws proposed by Ministers, and already voted by the Chamber of Deputies by an immense majority, for the abolition of exceptional and special tribunals for the clergy, and on the right of asylum in places of refuge, where the guilty were screened from punishment under cover of an inviolable shelter in certain religious establishments, churches, convents, and the like.

GERMAN STATES.

We learn from Berlin of the 14th, that the Prussian ministry at Erfurt had been defeated. The party of the Left, it seems, proposed certain clauses, which Von Radowitz declared would, if adopted, prove highly dangerous to the Union, notwithstanding which they were carried by 125 to 89. Von Radowitz and his colleagues were placed by this vote in an awkward dilemma, and it was uncertain what course the Government would take in consequence thereof.

UNITED STATES.

Advices to the 2nd inst. have come to hand from New York. Congress was still engaged in the discussion of the slavery question. John C. Calhoun, the senator, whose recent speech on the admission of California into the Union created so much sensation in the States, died on the 31st ult., at Washington, in the 68th year of his age.

Dr. Webster's trial, at Boston, for the murder of Dr. Parkman, terminated, on the 1st inst. in his conviction, and he has been sentenced to death. Dr. Webster was the Professor of Chemistry in the Medical College, Boston, and Dr. Parkman was the founder of that college, and there were some money transactions between them which led to the dissensions that ended in the murder. The murderer afterwards attempted to burn and otherwise conceal or destroy the body piecemeal. The evidence was very strong, though only circumstantial. This has been the most painfully interesting trial that has ever occurred in the United States.

The Hon. T. Butler King has laid before the Government and Congress his long-looked-for report on California and the Gold Regions generally of the Pacific Coast. It occupied nearly three hours reading, and in general gave a very glowing picture of untold and undreamed-of treasures, dwelling emphatically on the immense wealth anticipated from mining the quartz rocks in the mountains, vast bodies of which are said to be filled with veins and clefts of pure gold. Several steamers had sailed lately from the Atlantic ports for California, and thousands were emigrating to the auriferous regions from all parts of the old States.

A dreadful steam-boat accident had occurred between Buffalo and Niagara. The boiler of the steamer *Troy* exploded, when nearly twenty persons were scalded to death or drowned, and about the same number were seriously wounded.

A fire had occurred at Lafayette, Louisiana, destroying forty-five houses, and occasioning a loss of 100,000 dollars.

In the city of New Orleans cholera had made its appearance. It was generally believed that a renewed attempt would be shortly made to effect the descent upon the island of Cuba. It was said that the invaders (American adventurers) would rendezvous on the Isthmus of Panama, and also in the island of St. Domingo, and that the descent would be made on the southern side of the island, one Lopez to be Commander-in-Chief of the expedition. General Taylor has issued orders to various officers, and to Commodore Parker, at Havana, to prevent any infraction of the laws of nations on the part of the United States, and he will do his duty in preventing, as far as in his power lies, this dishonest invasion of the land and people of another nation. But it is possible that the honourable intentions of the United States Government may be frustrated, as the expeditions are to assemble at places where this Republic has no authority. There are 20,000 Spanish troops at and near the Havana, so that all the probabilities are, that wherever and whenever made, the invasion will be defeated.

INDIA.

Intelligence from Calcutta to the 8th ult., and Bombay to the 16th ult., has been received in town during the week.

The principal fact supplied by this mail is the disbandment, by Sir Charles Napier, of the 66th Bengal Native Infantry, for mutiny, caused by the withdrawal of their extra allowances. These allowances, until Scinde was settled, were made to the troops engaged in it as if on foreign service; since its final tranquillization this has ceased, and the same thing was the case with the Punjab while under the Lahore Government; since its annexation it has been dealt with as a portion of the empire, and it has been ordered that the troops beyond the Sutlej should no longer receive those extras, and their dissatisfaction at this caused the 66th Regiment to mutiny.

The Commander-in-Chief, in his general order on the subject, administers a very severe reproof to Major Troup commanding that regiment, for disobedience of instructions, in not himself making the troops aware of the change of pay and the cause of it; and Lieut. Barker has been placed under arrest, and a

court-martial ordered to inquire whether that officer did his utmost to quell the mutiny of his guard. The colours of the 66th were to be delivered over to the Nusseeree battalion, who will be in future denominated the 66th or Goorka Regiment.

His Excellency, the Governor-General of India (Marquis of Dalhousie), returned to Calcutta on the 7th March, where he was received with the most rapturous acclamations.

Sir Willoughby Cotton's resignation of the command of the Bombay army has been accepted; and it is expected that he will be relieved from that post of honour in October next.

The troops were enjoying tolerably good health, no great amount of sickness being prevalent. Small-pox was doing deadly work at Calcutta and its neighbourhood; and among other victims to that disease was Captain Hanfield, of her Majesty's 29th Foot.

The expedition under Sir Colia Campbell against the mountaineers in the neighbourhood of Peshawur had not been attended with the expected results. The expedition had returned to Peshawur.

The Hindoo and Mussulman populations in Mirzapoor had risen against each other under the influence of religious fanaticism; and in the disturbances which followed, the city was burnt to the ground.

The rest of India was profoundly tranquil.

CHINA.

The accounts from Hong-Kong are to the 27th of February. They contain nothing of interest in the domestic intelligence, but they state that the news recently received there from San Francisco had once more given an impetus to Californian speculators—that wooden houses were in great demand, to supply the places of those destroyed by the late conflagration. Several vessels had departed for the land of gold during the month, and others were on the eve of departure. Something in the nature of a slave trade was springing up at Hong Kong, which was either not known or was connived at by the consular authorities there, viz. contracts with artificers (Chinese) were made for three years, and these men were conveyed to San Francisco, and their services openly sold there for 400 dollars. A regular stream of emigrants was thus moving towards California from China, east.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The latest intelligence from the Cape informs us that the *Neptune* convict ship took its departure from the colonial waters at eight o'clock a.m., on the 21st of February. In the evening of that day, a general illumination took place, when the city was never known to have presented a gayer scene. The houses of the poor as well as those of the rich contributed their portion of light to the dazzling blaze, while the streets were thronged with spectators, gazing with rapture on the splendid view around them.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL AND THE PRESS.

(From the Morning Chronicle of Thursday.)

We are well aware that Prime Ministers, whose oratory must be ready to brave all weathers, are occasionally apt to be at a loss for a retort; but we are really astonished that even Lord John Russell's poverty of resource should have betrayed him into the suicidal argumentation of the speech which he delivered on Tuesday night. Our readers will remember the debate and its occasion. Mr. Milner Gibson, after moving resolutions condemnatory of the stamp and paper duties, had pertinently urged that the factitious price at which the Excise and Stamps cause first-class newspapers to be sold was rapidly driving the people, in their hunger for knowledge, to feed on the obscene or envenomed garbage of the unstamped sheets. The Government thought it could not afford to abandon the taxes on knowledge. Well and good. An appeal *ad misericordiam* is tolerably certain of favour with the House, and the Premier might easily have softened the disappointment of his sutors by a little of the oil of compliment or the saccharine solvent of partial concession. But spleen, or dyspepsia, or Mr. Roebuck, had exasperated his Lordship's temper, and he riposted with a thrust which almost forced Mr. Gibson's seconds to take the affair out of the hands of their principal. The "extracts read by his right honourable friend"—which consisted, be it observed, of mere anti-social nonsense and brutality—"seemed to him very much like what we read in stamped newspapers." This was the key-note. Lord John continued for some time in the same strain, affirmed that "much of the matter contained in newspapers cannot properly be dignified by the name of knowledge," and hinted that the chief superiority of the highest to the lowest class of journals lay in the expensive foreign intelligence which the former are compelled to procure; insinuating throughout, with some clumsy circumlocution and much ineffectual point, that we and our contemporaries, the "high-priced" organs of opinion, take rank generically with the *littérateurs* of Holywell-street—with the writers whose Muse is Cloacina, and whose type is the *Père Duchesne*.

After all, it would be idle to defend our order against the insults of the Whig leader. It is his revelation of himself that courts notice. Is the clue to this exhibition to be seized in the famous confession of Lord Althorp—"I never read newspapers"? and are we to conclude that the great families have given the political machine another engineer who systematically neglects the greatest of the powers which propel its wheels and control its action? No! his Lordship's acquaintance with Jacob Omnium repels the supposition. Is it then simply his critical acumen which is at fault; and does he really see no difference between the polemics of the stamped and of the unstamped press? The hypothesis may be rejected as implying not only an inability to distinguish the treatment from the abuse of a subject, but an absence of the common aesthetic power which separates the gentleman from his opposite. In fact, there is no plausible solution but one. Lord John Russell became angry—from angry grew imprudent—and then gave vent to a little of the acrid bile which, nourished by pride of family and pride of connexion, seethes in some remote corner of his heart of hearts. Shall we say, in the name of ourselves and our contemporaries, that it is well for him our position is so well secured? As things are, we can pass by this great provocation. Were our influence smaller and Lord John's larger than it is, we might, when we meditated on the qualifications for our duties and for his—when we reflected how little mere respectability of character would compensate in a journalist for a meagre philosophy, a frigid imagination, and a schoolboy pen—be tempted to employ against him, and perhaps with more formidable effect, the anti-social weapons of that very anarchical press to which he injuriously assimilates us.

Just one word, however, on the feature of resemblance between the two schools of journalism on which his Lordship thought fit specially to animadvert. It appeared that the literary Yahoo whom Mr. Gibson cited had been attempting to defile Lord Grey. "This character of Lord Grey," observed Lord John Russell, "I almost thought might have been written by Jacob Omnium, or one of the writers for the daily press." We are almost afraid we insult the intelligence of our readers by explaining that, between the performance in question and the inimitable letters of Mr. Omnium, there was absolutely nothing in common but the introduction of Lord Grey's name. The inference is, that the graces and refinements of composition are impotent, in the Premier's judgment, to preserve censure of the Colonial Secretary from the odours of the cesspool. A wrongheaded partiality is sufficiently extraordinary; but, after all, the most curious reflection suggested by Lord John's comparison is this—that there is extant another "character of Lord Grey," besides those of Mr. Jacob Omnium, Mr. G. W. M. Reynolds, and the "writers of the daily press." Who has forgotten that portrait sketched by one of the most eminent of masters, though with coarse colours and a hasty hand? "The most capricious, the most ill-tempered, the most impracticable, the most" &c. &c. of mankind.

It is a little odd that, in that circle of the Inferno where the gainsayers of Whig perfection struggle chin-deep in filth and mire, we should find ourselves alongside of the late colleague of the Premier—the great illustration of his party and of our age. But Justice is even-handed, of course.

CALIFORNIA.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Salmon Falls, South Fork of American River, Alta California, January 3, 1850.

SIR,—There has lately been a new discovery respecting the gold in this country, and great interest has been awakened on the subject. On the western slope of Sierra Nevada veins of gold-bearing quartz have been discovered, the richness of which will quite change the manner of mining in California. In June last T. Butler King commenced his investigations, and devoted two months to the subject, assisted by Mr. Wright. They have since made the results public. The specimens of quartz rock in possession of Mr. Wright are generally of a brownish tinge, and in some instances present the appearance of a slight incipient decay or decomposition of the rock formation. The gold points or particles are seldom visible to the naked eye, but the microscope reveals them plainly. Mr. Wright, however, has one specimen of the same rock weighing some 10 or 12 lb., from all parts of which the gold protrudes plainly, in a state almost pure. This specimen, from the most careful specific gravity test, as applied by Mr. Wright, contains about 600 dollars worth of pure gold.

But the interest or importance attaching to this or any other isolated specimen, however peculiar or rich in itself, is very inconsiderable in comparison with that which belongs to the average class of specimens. The astonishing results brought out by the investigations is, that 4 lb. of the quartz rock yielded upon an average 11 dollars worth of gold (valued at the rate of 16 dollars per oz.). The largest yield from the 4 lb. of rock was 12 dollars, and the smallest yield was 10 dollars.

In other veins of quartz rock in the same mountain range, many specimens have been tested, but in no instance has the yield been less than 1 dollar to the pound of rock, and the average yield has been from 1½ to 2 dollars to the pound of quartz.

From these facts, it is clear that in future the principal mining operations will cease to be located on the rivers and ravines, but will be carried on in those primeval masses of rock in which the gold was formed, and in which it still lies embedded, inexhaustible. All the gold hitherto found in this country is but the chance washings and abrasions from these mountains.

GEORGE NAPLES.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.
AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

Lord STANLEY, in presenting a petition from the agriculturists of St. Peter's, in the Isle of Thanet, and from five places in Lincolnshire, called the attention of the House to the fact that the abolition of the Corn-laws had reduced the price of corn much below the price which had been admitted to be the lowest that would be remunerative to the farmers. The noble Lord referred to the general cry for a reduction of public salaries and pensions as an example of the extent to which the effects of "Free Trade" made it felt. He did not consider that it would be safe to reduce public salaries, and, by that means, the efficiency of the administration of public affairs, in the way in which the petitioners desired; but, as the policy of the present Government had increased the burdens of the agriculturists very materially, he thought their claims were entitled to consideration. The Brick Duties Bill and the Exchequer-bills Bill passed through committee.

ECCLIESIASTICAL DOCTRINES.

In reply to a question from Lord Redesdale, the Bishop of London stated that it was certainly his intention to proceed with his Bill for the Establishment of a Court of Appeal other than the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in cases of False Doctrine held by Ministers of the Established Church. The court he should propose would be a Church court; but he had not yet had an opportunity of consulting his right reverend brethren on certain of the clauses of his bill. As soon as he could obtain their opinion on those clauses (which, however, would not touch the question of the proposed new court of appeal), he should proceed with the bill.

Lord REDSDALE expressed a hope that the right reverend prelate would not delay pressing his measure.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.
QUESTIONS.

To a question from Mr. Hume, Mr. LABOUCHERE stated that steps had been taken to reduce the expenses of our quarantine establishment to the lowest practical amount. There are now only three establishments, the total cost of which was but £1500. He did not think that it would be advisable to abolish our quarantine establishment altogether, without the concurrence of other powers.

ABOLITION OF THE LORD-LIEUTENANCY OF IRELAND.

Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice that he would, on the 6th of May, move for leave to bring in a Bill to abolish the office of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and to appoint a fourth Secretary of State.

STAMP DUTIES.

On the motion to go into Committee on the Stamp Duties Bill, Sir HENRY WILLOUGHBY inquired if it were competent to the House to go into Committee on the bill, considering that it deviated in a very material degree from the preliminary resolutions agreed to in committee of the whole House.

The SPEAKER ruled that the preliminary resolutions were sufficient foundation of the bill.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that, since the introduction of the bill, a great number of communications had been received, setting forth objections or suggestions, and that ninety-nine out of the hundred objections had been altogether removed by the alterations subsequently made in the measure.

Mr. GOULBURN pointed out several objections to the bill as then framed. It had been brought forward with the professed intention of giving relief to the landed interest, yet in the case of mortgages it increased the stamp duties on large transactions enormously. The right hon. gentleman showed how, in the instance of a property heavily mortgaged, it would operate as a preventive to the reduction of the high interest now charged.

After some critical remarks of Mr. Roundell Palmer, Mr. Henley, Mr. Hume, and Mr. Sadler, the House went into committee on the bill.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER then said that he had not proposed the bill as a relief to all parties, but as a relief to small interests, agricultural and commercial; and this he sought to do by adopting the *ad valorem* principle of duty throughout, as far as practicable. It appeared to him that large transactions should pay, in fairness, an equal percentage with small transactions. With respect to bonds and mortgages, he was prepared, after consultation with the Chairman of Inland Revenue, to make the reductions equal, and to fix the duty at $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. instead of $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., as was first proposed in the bill. He estimated that by his contemplated reduction of duties on small transactions, and increase of duties on large transactions, the loss to the revenue would be somewhere about £320,000—his original estimate of loss having been under £300,000.

Mr. DISRAELI reminded the right hon. gentleman that he had introduced the measure as a benefit to the landed interest; but it turned out that his proposal was to tax one portion of the landed interest for the advantage of another. With-giving any opinion whether or not such a measure was politic or necessary, he (Mr. Disraeli) could not avoid protesting against the underhand mode of its introduction.

After a desultory discussion, Mr. BRIGHT suggested an adjournment, as he did not think the subject had been maturely considered by the Government.

Lord J. RUSSELL said the principle of the measure had been for a month before the House, and all objections to its details should be discussed *seriatim* as they arose in the clauses. The greatest inconvenience would be caused by further delay, for many transactions were kept in abeyance pending the decision of the House upon it.

Mr. LAW had every disposition to agree to the remission of duties on small transactions, but, such was the general impatience of taxation, he had no disposition to agree to an increase of duties on large transactions.

The clauses of the bill were agreed to.

On schedule B, by which it was proposed to establish an *ad valorem* duty on bonds, beginning at 2s. 6d. on sums under £50,

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY moved, as an amendment, that the duty should begin at 1s., and go on increasing *ad valorem*.

Mr. DISRAELI, Mr. GOULBURN, and a great many hon. members supported the amendment, on the ground that, as the principle of an *ad valorem* duty was to be adopted, it would be best to begin at the lowest practicable amount.

The committee divided.

For Sir H. Willoughby's amendment	164
Against it	135
Majority against the Government	29

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER immediately moved that the Chairman report progress, in order to allow him to consider what course he should adopt in consequence of the decision of the committee.

Progress was accordingly reported, and the Chairman obtained leave to sit again on Monday.

SECURITIES FOR LOANS (IRELAND).

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Securities for Advances (Ireland) Bill.

Mr. J. STUART thought, that, as this bill was introduced with the intention of aiding the operation of the Encumbered Estates Act, the House ought to be informed how many sales had been actually effected under the act, how many orders had been made for the sale of estates by the Commissioners, and in how many cases applications had been made to have sales effected on payment of half the purchase-money, and the other half in the mode provided by the bill. The honourable and learned member moved the adjournment of the debate until this information should be before the House.

Sir J. WALSH supported the adjournment. He thought that the information required by Mr. Stuart should be laid on the table before the discussion on the second reading of the bill, and he thought, moreover, that twelve o'clock at night was too late an hour to begin a debate on so important a measure.

Mr. HATCHELL and Mr. ANSTAY urged the necessity of proceeding without delay.

The debate was ultimately adjourned to Thursday next.

MEDICAL CHARITIES.

Sir W. SOMERVILLE moved the second reading of the Medical Charities (Ireland) Bill, the objects of which he shortly explained. The principle of the bill was the establishment of a medical board. The right hon. gentleman announced that he had several alterations to make in the bill.

Mr. HAMILTON agreed that the medical charities in Ireland required amendment, but he had many objections to the bill.

The bill was read a second time, on the understanding that it should be committed *pro forma*, in order to have the amendments proposed by the Irish Secretary introduced into it, and that the general discussion should then be taken.

The Money Payment of Wages (Ireland) Bill was read a second time.

EXTRAMURAL INTERMENTS.

Sir G. GREY moved for leave to bring in a Bill to make better provision for the interment of the dead in and near the Metropolis. The right honourable gentleman stated that the bill was founded on the report of the Board of Health though it did not follow the recommendation of the Board of Health, in all its details. By its enactments, interments within the metropolitan districts would be prohibited, and a board or commission would be appointed. The metropolitan districts would be as near as possible the same as the Registrar-General's districts. The board would be authorised to provide burial-grounds, to fix fees and payments, &c. They would also be empowered to take any existing cemeteries, making compensation to the present proprietors. The burial-grounds under this bill would be in part consecrated according to the rites of the Established Church, and a portion would be set apart for all other denominations of Christians. Power would be given to the Queen in Council to order burials in churchyards in the district to be discontinued, with certain reservations of existing rights.

Leave was given to bring in the bill.—Adjourned at a quarter past one o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

Their Lordships sat for about half an hour.

The Earl of HARDWICKE, in presenting some petitions, expressed his regret at the result of a division in another place on the subject of grievances complained of by the assistant-surgeons in the navy.

The Brick Duties Bill was read a third time and passed.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.

Mr. GIBSON, after presenting petitions in favour of this object from several printers of the metropolis, from Manchester, from Sligo, from Wells, from Islington, from Staleybridge, from Cumberland, from Halesworth (near Manchester), from Marylebone, and from the members and friends of the Literary Institution, John-street, Tottenham-court-road, rose to move the following resolutions:—

"Whereas all taxes which directly impede the diffusion of knowledge are

highly injurious to the public interests, and are most impolitic sources of revenue, this House is of opinion—

"1st. That such financial arrangements ought to be made as will enable Parliament to repeal the excise duty on paper.

"2nd. That it is expedient to abolish the stamp duties now payable on newspapers in Great Britain and Ireland.

"3rd. That it is expedient to abolish the duties now payable on advertisements in Great Britain and Ireland.

"4th. And that the customs-duty on foreign books ought to be repealed."

The hon. member said,—Sir, before I enter upon the merits of the particular resolutions that I am about to submit to the House, I think it right to make a few preliminary observations, in order to explain to the House why I have thought it consistent with my views to submit the motion in its present form of separate resolutions; also to explain to the House clearly the way in which I wish the motion to be understood by hon. members who are inclined to vote for any of these resolutions; and also to explain why I consider it right to move for what some might consider a large reduction of taxation, after the financial arrangements of the year had been concluded. With regard to the last of these points, viz. in reference to the difficulty which honourable gentlemen naturally feel to entertain any project for the reduction of the taxation of the country, after the financial arrangements of the year have been made, I wish to say that, if members of Parliament are to wait previous to asking the House to express an opinion upon the policy of a tax until there is a clear surplus, and no way is pointed out of employing that surplus, I very much question whether there will ever be an opportunity for an independent member to submit the policy of any taxation to the House. At all times Government spend as much as they can get. You can at no particular moment point out when it is not found that the expenditure of the country is equal to its revenue. If you are to wait for the time when Government has a surplus with no plan for its disposal, I say that you will scarcely have an opportunity to raise objections to any part of the taxation. In 1842, when the right honourable gentleman the member for Tamworth (whom I see opposite) entered into power, with a large deficiency, the expenditure having exceeded the revenue, that did not deter the right hon. gentleman from dealing with taxation as a matter of policy, and from making financial arrangements, that, without impairing the public revenue, he was able to repeal many taxes which rested on the springs of industry and fettered the operations of manufactures. Therefore, without reference to the question, whether money is lying idle in the coffers of the State, we are justified in bringing forward these matters as matters of policy, with a view to ask the House whether any particular tax is contemplated as a permanent part of taxation. I do not ask any gentleman to do anything rash, nor do I myself wish to do anything rash connected with finance. It has been contended that a school of repudiation is rising up amongst us: I am not of that school; but I do not feel myself precluded from examining the consequences of particular modes in which taxation may press on industry, to see whether we can make arrangements in such a manner as will keep up the public revenue without checking the diffusion of knowledge or pressing on the important branch of trade and manufactures. The mode in which I ask the House is simply this: I ask them to declare at this moment that the paper duty is to cease. I ask them to declare that such financial arrangements ought to be made as will enable Parliament to repeal the excise duty on paper. I ask them whether they think it fitting that such a tax as this should remain a permanent source of revenue? I apprehend I am not departing from the legitimate functions of a member of the House of Commons in asking the opinion of the House on so important a question of policy as to any part of taxation. Although it is true that these resolutions are headed by a preamble, yet they will be put to the House separately, and I do not presume to ask any member of this House to vote for all these resolutions on one motion of my own, submitted in a form that should embrace every one. All that I do is to declare my own opinion, that all of these taxes ought to be repealed, but I only ask the House to vote for each separate resolution as it stands; and if any gentleman may have difficulties as to the removal of the stamps on newspapers, he is not to be precluded from voting for the excise on paper; or if any other gentleman may not vote for the repeal of the duty on paper of £800,000 per annum, he is not to be deterred from voting for the repeal of the stamp on newspapers. I wish to explain this matter to the House before my motion is placed in the hands of the Speaker, that hon. members may know to what extent they may give their vote. The resolution that stands first is the excise duty upon paper. This duty upon paper yields a revenue of something like £800,000; but if we were to deduct from that £800,000 the amount which is supposed to be paid by the State itself in duty upon the paper that the State consumes in all public departments, perhaps we might lower the amount. It cannot be much less than something like between £20,000 and £30,000; and I do not think I should be far from the mark, if I put the paper duty on the whole at £750,000. Now, if we consider the duty on paper simply in reference to its effect on an important manufacture, I think we should find in it a convincing case for taking into our early consideration its repeal. Without going into the more immediate object of my motion, viz. the effect of this duty in impeding the diffusion of knowledge, I will call the attention of the House to its effect on the paper manufacture itself, upon the employment of labour, and upon some other considerations of a commercial character, that perhaps are not immediately connected with the diffusion of knowledge. I hold it to be fatal to a tax, if you cannot protect, by any device you can adopt, the honest trader from the fraudulent trader. I would ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer—I would ask any experienced member on either side of the House, whether he would undertake to say it was in the power of Government, by any device they may adopt, to protect the honest manufacturer from the hands of the fraudulent manufacturer, and give him a fair chance in competition in supplying goods to the market? What a monstrous thing it is, if it be true that the Excise have always failed to protect the honest manufacturer, that you should continue a tax of this description? It was an argument itself fatal to the tax. We have heard of the competition of smuggling imported goods, but I do not think the competition of the smuggler is to be talked of for one moment in comparison with the competition of the fraudulent manufacturer of paper with the honest manufacturer who pays the duty. A list was published last year of the names of many persons who had been proceeded against by the Excise for carrying on a systematic violation of this law; but in order to protect the honest manufacturer from the fraudulent manufacturer, what do you do? You have recourse to a system of most vexatious interference, of constant prying into and meddling with all the affairs of the manufacturers of paper. You are obliged to do this—which I think anyone would hardly think to be true of any country, even Algiers—to protect in some slight degree the honest manufacturer from the unfair competition of the fraudulent manufacturer. I will give an instance of the sort of way in which it is thought necessary to interfere with the manufacturers of paper. Mr. Baldwin says:—

"It costs me in labour alone to help to charge myself with the duty on paper above £100 a year. I make about twelve tons per week; and, in consequence of these excise laws, have to weigh every ream four times over, besides taking the number of every ream, and writing the weight on each. There are seven or eight pasteboard-makers in Birmingham, all of whom, I believe, do not pay £50 a year duty; while the time occupied by the exciseman and supervisor in charging them with this amount costs the country five times that amount."

It is said that there is no interference with the process of manufacture; but you do interfere with the process of manufacture if you frame an act in which it is laid down that paper should be manufactured of certain materials in a wet state. And then it was found out that paper could be made of those materials in a dry state; and the manufacturer producing articles from the dry state without duty was competing with a man paying duty levied on paper made in a wet state. It was necessary to take some steps to make regulations to obviate this anomaly. A compromise was entered into with the manufacturer who produced paper from materials got up in a dry state. This manufacturer still defies you; for he found some other invention which does not infringe your regulations, and is making an article without paying duty which competes with paper paying the regular duty. You will say, these are matters not peculiar to the manufacturer of paper; that they are true of other manufactures to which the excise laws apply. It may be so to some extent, but I will mention some additional reasons which render it most expedient that the House should consider of the repeal of this duty on paper. With regard to the employment of labour, I would just ask hon. gentlemen opposite, interested as they are in the employment of the labourer of the rural districts, to consider how materially the paper manufacture is connected with the employment of labour in many agricultural districts. The manufacturer of paper is the only rural manufacturer we have. The paper-mills are to be found in almost every county of the United Kingdom. We employ a large amount of labour, and if it be the tendency of these duties, as I believe it is, to lessen the number of paper manufacturers, to lessen the production of paper, to limit the export of paper, then I say that in producing these results it lessens the employment of labour in these rural districts; it causes an increase of the poor-rates in those districts; and it becomes a legitimate question for members especially interested in agricultural prosperity, to consider whether it is not possible to get rid of this duty, which is producing a large and heavy result in reference to the non-employment of labour in rural districts. Look at the uses to which the manufacture is applied. Not only does it employ labour in the particular manufacture, but for all those subsidiary purposes to which it may be applied in other branches of manufactures. It employs labour in repairing and renovating all the delicate machinery that was constantly employed in the manufacture of the article. There is no article that I ever heard of that does employ a larger amount of men, women, and children, than the manufacture of paper. Mr. Crompton has made a calculation as to the employment of labour. He has calculated that the repeal of the paper duty would employ 40,000 additional people in London alone. Mr. Crompton says that a single newspaper that purchases as much as £3000 value in one year in paper, employs as much as £15,000 per annum in labour. What an important consideration it is, when we see societies springing up to export from this country the female population, because they cannot earn their own living! For it is in this manufacture of paper that females are employed; and instead of raising a large sum of money to export the female population, consider whether it would not be well to do something towards the removal of those fiscal obstacles to the employment of labour which are mainly instrumental in bringing about the evils which you deplore. I ask on these grounds alone, in reference to the employment of labour, and in reference to the success of the manufacture, and in reference to the vexatious interference of the excise, whether of itself there would not be a *prima facie* case against this tax? There is no reason why we should not manufacture paper in England and Ireland, and make it as cheap as any country in the world. (Hear, hear.) At this time Canada and other colonies are taking the paper of France, the United States, and Germany, rather than have it from the manufacturer in this country, who is driven to increase the cost of the paper in consequence of the interference of the excise regulations, and the additional cost he is put to by the actual duty it-

self. It is true he gets the drawback, but that is not equal to the additional cost he is put to. It places him to some extent on a disadvantage with the foreign manufacturer in colonial markets. We do not see any increase in the export of paper, if I may judge from the amount of the drawback; on the contrary, the drawback on the paper is pretty much what it was many years ago. It appears to be stationary trade—(a laugh)—and if there were not something sapping the root of the paper manufacture in this country, considering the great facilities that we have, we should see it, like other branches of our exports, increasing and we should observe a corresponding accession of prosperity in that branch of our manufactures with the other heads of exports. But the view that I take is, that the operation of the paper duty is the most important as to its effect in preventing the diffusion of knowledge amongst the great body of the people. I hope I shall not be told by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, or by the noble Lord at the head of the Government, if he will condescend to give his opinion upon this occasion, that if you take a novel or book like Mculloch's "Commercial Dictionary," selling at 50s., you will find the paper duty only 6d. If that were so, it would not in any way touch the case that I wish to press on the House. The case I wish to present is the effect of the paper duty in preventing the spreading of cheap instruction through the great mass of the community, and retarding the educational efforts that are being made by Parliament and individuals at this time. It is not a question of a high-priced book, and the amount of duty on that particular work, but it is a question how far the amount of this paper duty prevents men of capital from undertaking the prosecution of a work which depends upon a large and extensive circulation for a small profit upon each particular volume. That is the description of literature in which we are interested, if we are desirous to spread knowledge amongst the people. It is the only description that can reach the people, that is published at a cheap rate, and depends for its existence on extensive circulation. It is the extensive circulation that causes the large amount of paper to be consumed, and it is, therefore, that there is a large pressure on this particular description of work. [The hon. member then read an extract from a petition presented to the House by Messrs. Chambers, of Edinburgh, which set forth that the duty on paper operated to retard the diffusion of knowledge. The Messrs. Chambers' petition was presented to the House during the last session of Parliament, on the 9th of June, 1849.] The hon. member continued: I think this is a very important statement of the Messrs. Chambers. We have a similar statement from Mr. Charles Knight. I dare say many honourable members have seen an able pamphlet, in which he gives the history of the struggles of a book against excessive taxation. This is in the history of the "Penny Cyclopædia," intended for the instruction of the working and poorer classes. How much had he to pay to the revenue of this country in hard cash for paper duty on that one book? Not less than £16,500 sterling. How much was the cost of the paper, &c., enhanced by the operation of the duty? It increased it to £30,000 or £32,000 sterling. What an enormous sum was this for us to be exacting on one book! £16,500 was to be paid before a man could be at liberty to spread through this vast community the inestimable blessings of knowledge, which form the raw material of all social improvement amongst the great mass of the working-people in this country. Can we say we are really in earnest on the question of educating the people, and spreading the knowledge that we have, if we are squabbling about the Church and Dissent, and doling out a small amount to schools in different parts of the country, while we are maintaining fiscal exactions which are hindering and retarding the cause of education more than our votes of money are doing good in promoting it? I do not wish to weary the House with details. I will endeavour to state the broad fact so far as I have it in my power; but there are those who are more acquainted with the minute details, who, I hope, will fill up any deficiency. Charles Knight says, that during the last twenty years he has spent £80,000 upon copyright and literary labour, and paid £50,000 paper duty, in order to give the world the benefit of the £80,000 worth of editorial and literary labour. Here is a tax on capital, and here is a pressure on mind and talent. Here we begin to see how this must prevent the spreading of knowledge amongst the poorer classes, who cannot afford to give more than the smallest sum. There is a little work called *The Working Man's Friend*, the proprietor of which told me, that, before he paid labour of any kind, he was obliged to pay £1000 to Government for duty on the paper which he uses. This appears to me to be an enormous sum to exact from a man who is endeavouring to benefit the world by circulating the labour of the mind through the mass of the community. Besides this, he cannot add to the price in order to make up for the imposition of this paper duty. Unless the work is brought out at a small sum—at a penny—so that it is within the reach of the great body of the working people, you might as well do nothing, and therefore it is no answer to say that, though there is this large amount levied, he gets it back from the consumer. There must be an immense circulation before he can get any profit at all. Knowing this, he is debarred from embarking in risks which appear to him so hazardous, and the community is deprived of much mental cultivation and improvement, as far as the poorer classes are concerned. In the more expensive description of works the duty increases the risk of literary speculation. Suppose a man publishes a work, how is he to know how many volumes of the work may be sold? He may have 1000 printed, but does he know that he may sell 1000? Every volume is to pay a tax; and, if he only sells one or two hundred out of these thousand, he is to suffer a loss by the duty upon those that find no other end but by being sent to the butterman or cheesemonger. The Commissioners of Excise Inquiry dwelt upon this branch of the subject, and said that undoubtedly it was a great injustice to make the publisher of a book pay duty on a large portion of that for which he never got a sale. You do not treat the dealer in gin, brandy, and tobacco in this unjust way. Before they sell to the consumer you do not require the tax—they may bond; but when you are dealing with the publishers of books, who are as important a class as the dealers in gin, brandy, and tobacco, you seem to proceed with that recklessness of injustice, that because they may be powerless in producing an effect on this House, and because they may not have interest in the election of boroughs, and because the paper manufacturers are spread over the kingdom, and small, and, politically speaking, powerless, you neglect the obvious principles of equity in the levying of your taxes. If we ought to impose those taxes, they ought to exist with something like common justice, and we ought not, by imposing a duty on the whole impression of the work to be published, so materially to increase the risk of literary speculation, and deter men of intellect from giving the benefit of their talents to the community. I have stated the grounds why I think this duty on paper prejudicial to the progress of knowledge amongst the great masses, and upon these grounds I call upon the House deliberately to consider whether this duty on paper shall continue to be a permanent part of the taxation of this country. The committee of the House, who have inquired into this subject, recommended a repeal of the duty on paper. That was a committee of which Sir Henry Parnell was chairman. Another committee recommended it—that of the hon. member for Dumfries (who was the chairman) on public libraries. There was also an inquiry of commissioners for inquiring into the excise system, all recommending the repeal of this duty upon paper. I cannot help thinking, that if the right hon. gentleman the member for Tamworth had been in office, the repeal of the duty on paper would have followed the repeal of the excise duty on glass. Now sir, I will leave the first resolution, impressing strongly upon the minds of gentlemen that all I ask them to do is to declare an opinion that this paper duty shall not be a perpetual source of public revenue, but that the Government shall find some substitute. I shall not suggest any plan, that I may not impeach the fertility of resources which I know the Chancellor of the Exchequer must possess in these matters. I would rather leave it to the Government, feeling assured that if the House of Commons should declare that a duty of this kind, so detrimental to the trade of the country, so injurious to the moral and intellectual welfare of the country, ought to be repealed, government will, at no distant day, come forward, with such arrangements as to include the repeal of the paper duty. In the second resolution which I propose—I refer to the stamp duty on newspapers—I propose that the House should resolve that it is expedient to abolish the stamp on newspapers. I believe that I may be permitted not to consider this matter as a question of revenue. I remember when this question was brought before Parliament some years ago, that the noble Lord then at the head of the Government (Lord Melbourne) said that he hoped that no man would think him capable for a moment, of putting this question on so mean and so narrow a ground as that of revenue. He viewed it in reference to its effect on the habits and feelings of the people of this country; it is in that spirit he dealt with it, and not in the spirit of revenue. What is the amount of revenue obtained by the stamp on newspapers? It amounts to £350,000, or, £360,000 per annum; I am not sure which, as I have not seen the last returns; but let us say £350,000 per annum. Now, I know gentlemen who fancy that newspapers have some privilege in being carried through the Post-office for nothing, and that, therefore, in return for these postal privileges which the State has given them, they may fairly be expected to pay this £350,000 a year on stamps. I do not in the slightest degree propose to alter the postal arrangements, but I wish to leave the matter precisely in the same position as that in which it now stands. I am perfectly satisfied with those arrangements, with this proviso, that when a newspaper should go through the Post-office it should pay the stamp duty, but that when it did not go through the Post-office a compulsory stamp duty should not be imposed on it. I want to leave these postal privileges where they are, but I do not want to make newspapers pay for what they do not use. You have adopted this principle yourselves. I moved for a return, which I have now with me, which was laid before this House, and in which it appears there are no less than fifty-three registered newspapers printed and published with a portion of their impression unstamped. When they want them to go by post, then they stamp them; but when they are not to go by post, they send them in another way; and you may go into any office of these registered newspapers, and you will there find that you can purchase a stamped or an unstamped edition, just as you please. I call on you to grant the privilege which you grant to these fifty-three registered newspapers in London to all other newspapers. I will take the case of *Punch*, of the *Athenæum*, of the *Builder*, and of a number of different papers, and I ask you, if you allow any of them to be unstamped when they do not go through the Post-office, is there any reason why you should not allow the *Daily News* to be unstamped when it does not go through the post. (Hear.) Perhaps you will say that the above are not newspapers; but, then, I ask you what right you have to let them go through the Post-office as newspapers? It is because they present themselves at the Post-office in the character of newspapers that you allow them to go free as newspapers. I have a right to presume they are newspapers, on the ground that it was to newspapers only that the law granted this exemption. I must say that this system is so anomalous about stamps on newspapers with reference to the postage part of it, that I think you cannot maintain it, and that the thing will ultimately break down. I will bring forward a case to show the anomaly. There is Mr. Savory's book, which shows the advantages of his candlesticks and candelabra. Now, if he wants to send his book through the Post-office, like a newspaper, what does he do? He goes to the Stamp-office, and says that he is about to bring out a newspaper; he obtains stamped paper, he prints his book of prices on it, and, in virtue of the

newspaper stamp, it goes free of advertisements through the Post-office; and this, we are told, is necessary, in order that newspapers should go free. This is a most anomalous and absurd system, and I contend that you ought to do by all the other newspapers as you now do by these fifty-three registered newspapers and by Savory's book. I would make it a rule that all should be stamped at all times, or that all should be stamped when they go by post, and unstamped when they do not. It would be fair for the House to call on the Chancellor of the Exchequer to do this, if he does not wish the present system to break down, as I feel it will certainly do, and will thereby bring that department of the stamp duties into disrepute. I contend that, on the ground of simplicity alone, inasmuch as all the most learned men had totally failed to define what they meant by a newspaper, that you ought to abolish the stamp duty to that extent, because, by maintaining it, you do a great injustice by allowing many papers which give news to go untaxed, whilst others have to pay. (Hear, hear.) I defy the ingenuity of any man to lay down what is that description of news or sentiment which a man may say without a tax, and what that description of news or sentiment which renders him liable to the tax. Any correspondence that I have seen on the matter, or any explanation which I have heard made on the subject, only left the matter more obscure than when I commenced to examine into it. I know that it will be said that the stamp on newspapers is a political question, and that it is a tax which it is necessary to maintain, in order to keep up the respectability of your papers. Now I will relate a circumstance to the House, which will show what sort of a protection this stamp is to the respectability of newspapers. There was a paper called *Sam Sly*, which lived by libelling individuals, mentioning their names, their places of residence, and everything that could make every person identify them and know who they were, and uttering truly or untruly, mostly untruly, the most shameful libels. But there was one particular case to which I wish to call the attention of the House. This paper libelled a clergyman at Barking, and said that this clergyman had been guilty of some improper connexion with one of his female servants. The Stamp-office was consulted, and the solicitor to the stamp department, Mr. Keogh, says, that the paper called *Sam Sly* is not liable to the newspaper stamp duty, so that it appeared that, without paying a tax, you are at liberty to circulate statements concerning individuals, affecting their private characters. Now, I ask the House if this is not news, ay, and news of the worst description, but, according to the solicitor, Mr. Keogh, you circulate these things without being liable to the stamp duty. (Hear, hear.) The clergyman proceeded against *Sam Sly*. How was he obliged to deal with him? Why, according to the ordinary law, and in point of fact, the securities of the Stamp-office, and the stamp itself, were of no avail whatever. The defendant pleaded in his defence that he got his living by circulating that description of intelligence. (Hear.) This is the most anomalous and extraordinary tax that ever existed in any country at any period. The solicitor for the stamp department went on to say, that *Paul Pry* and the *Town* are not liable to the newspaper stamp duty, but are regularly assessed for advertisement duty. But I contend that these papers do circulate news, and their exemption from the tax is to me the most anomalous thing that can be, when I see extremely useful papers, which you will not allow to publish the smallest fact, or if they did you would come down on them immediately for the tax. It is said that the stamps on newspapers prevent political theories from being spread among the working classes. I could bring down to the House a large bundle of unstamped newspapers, if it were not irregular to do so, which are weekly periodicals, and which are circulated among the great masses of the community. These papers contain those very theories which some gentlemen think they have kept within certain limits by the means of the stamp. I believe that some of those unstamped newspapers are very respectable, but I understand that they are all at liberty to promulgate their political theories. Now, the Newspaper Stamp Act says, "That any man who publishes any intelligence, news or facts, or any remarks or observations thereon, shall be made liable to the stamp duties." Now, I mean to say, that with regard to the latter part of the passage which I have quoted from the act, I apply to all those periodicals which I have made, and I observe that most of them are giving their views and sentiments to the world. The law has not the effect of preventing them from doing so, and they give their political theories without let or hindrance. (Hear, hear.) It does not hinder any man from circulating his speculative opinion, provided he does not give those facts which are necessary to test the accuracy of his theory, and which are necessary to guide the people who read it to form a just idea on it. (Cheers.) You may give any opinions you please—you may speculate on religious and political matters unstamped, but you cannot give facts. You may publish as many falsehoods as you please, and you will not be liable to a tax; the fact is, that there is no tax on lies, but there is a tax on truth. (Cheers.) A man may publish the most false calumnies, and the most vile insinuations against the Sovereign, or the Minister who advises her. You may accuse the latter of being guilty of acts of the greatest unworthiness, and nothing could be done to you; but if you told the public the truth, if you gave them the debates which occur in this House, the proceedings in the courts of justice, or what falls from the judges on the bench—if you told the people of these things, which it is necessary for them to know—if you told them of these facts, which would prevent them from adopting dangerous errors—then the Solicitor of Excise would come down on you, and tell you that you had inserted in your paper matter which brought you within the Newspaper Act. I will ask the House if this is right, if you wish that sound views should be published in the public papers, and that the truth should be made known among the great body of the people. To give some idea of the host of comments and the extent of comments that the Newspaper Act allows, because I presume that it allows what the excise-officers do not interfere to prevent. I will quote from the *Lamp*, a penny publication, and a religious paper, in which the writer is commenting and remarking on published intelligence. He refers to the case of "Gorham v. the Bishop of Exeter," and having commenced with the following quotation from Shakespeare—

Sir John. "That was a hard case—a singular case—an important case."
Jester. "Nay, your honour; it was simply a ludicrous case."

He says:—

"For months past, as all the world knows, the minds of the English public have been kept in a state of feverish excitement by the theological squabbles of the two Anglican worthies whose names head this paper. The good men and true of the Establishment became regularly pitted against each other. Dividing themselves into two parties, they prepared for a smashing encounter—the one stoutly maintaining, in the person of their right rev. leader, the old and orthodox dogma of spiritual regeneration by infant baptism; the other as boldly maintaining the opposite view, and cheering their chosen champion to the skies. What a scene to laugh at for those who had neither spiritual nor temporal interest at stake! How the Dissenters might chuckle and sneer, and turn up their nose in disgust, while witnessing these solemn tomfooleries. How they might scourge these grave puerilities which their own code of belief boldly repudiates, and which, to do them justice, they could neither sanction nor understand. But in what light did Catholics view this clerical set-to? Why, to them there was nothing strange to be seen; it was merely a repetition of some of the antics and vagaries of the mutinous crew of a leaky, shattered old barque, whose cable they wickedly cut some three hundred years ago, and set her adrift without compass or rudder, and have kept her ever since beating about through rocks and shoals upon the stormy sea of uncertainty and error."

I quote this as an anomalous instance. If you allow them to comment and to make observations of this description, you should also allow them to give the actual trial and the proceedings thereat. Let them tell the whole case, and do not limit them to observations. (Hear, hear.) But you cannot enforce the act; if you attempted to do so you would involve yourselves in a train of prosecutions, and in such a system of fining and imprisoning that you would bring the whole thing about your ears. I will quote from another publication—*Reynold's Political Instructor*—which, in decanting on the Government in very strong language, says:—

"Lord Palmerston flared and blustered in the House about the independence of Hungary; but not one bullet nor one musket found its way from the Government stores to assist that noble people in their glorious struggle for freedom. In foreign lands our policy is stigmatised as perfidious; we are disliked and mistrusted. Never, perhaps, were the following lines of Lord Byron, when alluding to the position of England, more appropriate than at the present time:—

*Alas! did she but really, truly know,
How her great name is now througho' the world
How all the world is eager for the blow
Which shall lay bare her bosom to the sword.*

The condition of our colonies, under the flagrant misrule of Earl Grey, is deplorable in the extreme. Notwithstanding the floggings and shootings of those aspiring Haynays in the Ionian Isles and Ceylon—Ward and Lord Torrington—the people of these possessions are determined, sooner or later, to throw off the merciless yoke of England. One by one, our colonies, following the example of America, will free themselves from the chains of aristocratic domination."

All that was said without rendering the paper liable to stamp duty. I hold in my hand a paper which professes to decant on the necessity for an entirely new organisation of society, based on principles not opposed to, but in accordance with, nature. (Laughter.) Then here is *Cooper's Journal*; or, *Unfettered Thinker and Plain Speaker for Truth, Freedom, and Progress*. This is an unstamped paper, and the writer decants on the speech from the throne in a letter headed "Men of the Future." It begins by saying:—

"The concluding paragraphs of the Queen's Speech merely confirm the report that it would allude to the ministerial purpose of altering the law relative to the franchise. It leaves us entirely in the dark as to what kind of alteration is intended, and how far it will be an extension. The Delphic oracle was never more enigmatical. The favour of Divine Providence has hitherto preserved this kingdom from the wars and convulsions which during the last two years have shaken so many of the states of the Continent of Europe. It is her Majesty's hope and belief that by combining liberty with order, by preserving what is valuable, and amending what is defective, you will sustain the fabric of our institutions, as the abode and the shelter of a free and happy people." If the *Weekly Chronicle*, professing to have official sources of information, had not told us that "an extension of the franchise" would be unfolded in the Royal Speech, as a ministerial intention—if Admiral Dundas, a Lord Commissioner of the Admiralty, had not assured his constituents at Greenwich that the Government had positively introduced a measure for the extension of the franchise in session—if expectation and belief had not thus been created—who could have ventured to interpret the peroration of the Queen's speech as having any such substantial meaning? Lord John, during the recess, has evidently been studying Herodotus—perhaps in Mr. Bohn's newly translated edition, for one cannot give him credit for much Greek scholarship—and has noted the slippery skill with which the priestess was wont to give her reptiles from the tripod. 'Combining liberty with order,' and 'preserving what is valuable, and

amending what is defective,' may mean not attempting the suspension of the Habeas Corpus, or any other curtailment of English liberty, temporary or permanent—that is to say, doing nothing relative to the franchise; or it may be explained, in the course of the session, to mean the abolition of the ratepayers' clauses in the Reform Bill of 1832, or almost any other peddling 'improvement.' In short, the last sentence of the Queen's Speech is a very pretty stroke of Whiggery, and may be made to mean anything that Ministers may be compelled to propose, in order to keep their seats: or, if the Protection threat should turn out bluster, and the financial reforms prove as 'decorous' as in the last session, it can be shown to mean the 'preservation of our venerable constitution,' by simply letting it alone."

This is allowed apparently under the act, but you will not allow a systematic record of facts; and you will not let cheap newspapers go into the field to compete with unstamped publications, to which you leave the extensive monopoly of framing the minds of the great working body of this country, without allowing the papers the power of correcting the effect of their errors by the promulgation of facts. I do not wish to see the country deluged with publications that would do harm; there would be no such effect from a free emancipated press. Having stated these arguments, I believe that I have laid before the House what it behoves it calmly to consider and thoroughly to understand, because I believe that it is most important that we should give to the man of capital and respectability the power of giving by their newspapers faithful records of facts to the great body of the working-classes of this country. (Cheers.) There is another description of unstamped paper as a substitute for newspapers. It is a description of paper calculated to excite the nerves of the people; and as you will not let the proprietors of these unstamped periodicals publish recorded facts, you must let them rack their brains for something that will excite the nerves or the imagination of the people. There is one paper called the *Terrific Record*. (Laughter.) That is for the nervous. There is another paper which contains a horrible account of a Duchess murdered by a maniac, and another giving "The Adventures of a Countess; or, the Life of Lola Montes." As there seems to be a desire amongst the people for something of this kind, I do not blame persons for selling what they can get a livelihood by. The sale of such publications rises because you will not allow newspapers to go into the field to compete with them. I was told by an eminent bookseller in Manchester that he sold over his counter—I think he said between 80,000 and 90,000 per week of these penny publications to the working-classes. He told me that the working-man comes into his shop on Saturday, and buys his penny publication. "Sometimes," added the bookseller, "he is political, and sometimes he is a man for the imaginative. He takes his book home to his family. But, if there were, also, on my counter a penny newspaper, which gave a fair account of the leading events of the day, the proceedings in Parliament, and the courts of law, I do not believe that there is one man in fifty who would not prefer the newspaper to the other publications." (Hear.) But the working-man cannot give a high price for the newspaper; and you cannot circulate newspapers at the present prices among the working-classes. Now I will quote the evidence of Lord Brougham, when Lord Chancellor, before a committee of the House of Commons, which was given with all the responsibility of a man holding the Great Seal, and is of great weight. It is as follows:—

"The people wish to read the news, in which they take an interest, and in which it is fit they should take an interest. In public affairs they are nearly concerned, and it is both their right and their duty to attend much to public affairs. I am of opinion that a sound system of Government requires the people to read and inform themselves upon political subjects, else they are the prey of every quack, every impostor, and every agitator who may practise his trade in the country. If they do not read—if they do not learn—if they do not digest, by discussion and reflection, what they have read and learnt—if they do not thus qualify themselves to form opinions for themselves, other men will form opinions for them—not according to truth and to the interests of the people, but according to their own individual and selfish interests, which may, and most probably will, be contrary to that of the people at large. The best security for a Government like this, for the Legislature, for the Crown, and, generally, for the public peace and public morals, is, that the whole community should be well informed upon its political as well as its other interests; and it can be well informed only by having access to wholesome, sound, and impartial publications. Therefore, they will and ought to read the news of the day, political discussions, political events, the debates of their representatives in Parliament and of the other House of Parliament, and on not one of these heads can any paper be published, daily or weekly, without coming under the stamp law; consequently, the people at large are excluded by the dear form in which alone the respectable publishers can afford it, while they pay the duty. They can only have it in a cheap newspaper form by purchasing of publishers of another description, who break the revenue law by paying for no stamps, and also break all other laws by the matter they publish. If, instead of newspapers being sold for sixpence or a shilling, they could be sold for a penny, I have no manner of doubt there would immediately follow the greatest possible improvement in the tone and temper of the political information of the people, and, therefore, of the political character and conduct of the people. I hold it to be as clear a proposition as any in finance, that if you abolish the stamp on newspapers, instead of increasing the facility to set up libellous publications, you greatly lessen it by increasing the number of good publications, and by destroying the monopoly in the hands of reckless men, who neither mind the old law of the land nor a breach of the stamp laws."

The present Chief Justice, Lord Campbell, went still further than Lord Brougham. He said that he wished the day would come when he should see newspapers published for one-halfpenny. A penny stamp imposed a duty on a penny newspaper of one hundred per cent., and on a halfpenny one it would be two hundred per cent. (Hear, hear.) Does not this affect the circulation of knowledge and truth among the people? Is it right that the people of this country should labour under the suspicion that the object of the stamp is to keep knowledge from the masses, and that suspicion must be entertained by them when they see the way that this question is argued and dealt with in this House. It has been avowed, and the avowal has not been withdrawn, that the object of the penny stamp was to prevent the cheap newspapers from getting into the hands of men who are not respectable, and to keep them in the hands of men of respectability and capital who would deal fairly with the subjects which they treat of. It would be better to found this tax on revenue. And do not let any one say that in these days we are to make it a matter of public policy to prevent by fiscal regulations our fellow-countrymen from getting a faithful record of all facts of importance. (Cheers.) With regard to the *Times*, and other influential newspapers, it is not to be doubted that the effect of this tax is to limit their circulation. There are many who tell us that they have an interest in maintaining the stamp duty, and are not favourable to its removal. I will not enter into that argument, and I think that no honourable member wishes me to do so. What! was a monopoly in intelligence to be supported by fiscal regulations? No; the idea must be scouted by every man that I am now now addressing. (Hear.) I do not believe in this monopoly. I do not believe that papers of established reputation lose by the repeal of stamps; but I am confident that they would be willing to share with others the advantages to be derived by the removal of the duty. The relative positions of newspapers would not be changed at all by such a change of duties as would be common to all the newspapers, and I cannot understand that there is any good reason for supposing that there is any ground for the fear that the removal of the stamp duties would materially injure those papers which now circulate among the wealthy classes. (Hear, hear.) I believe that the *Times* newspaper pays £60,000 a year in stamps, and it would be of vast importance to have a remission of that duty. It is not, however, with reference to this class of newspapers that my motion is addressed: it is with reference to that class which I have alluded to already, and the smallness of whose price enables them to reach the great mass of the people; and which, nevertheless, are prevented by the stamp act from giving facts which would be beneficial to the people, and which they ought to give. I will now refer to the case of a Norwich newspaper, called the *Norwich Reformer*, to show how obscure and uncertain is the meaning of the Stamp Act. The Solicitor of Stamps gave its proprietor a caution, that his publication was violating the Newspaper Act. The correspondence was as follows:—

"Inland Revenue, Somerset House, 7th March, 1850.—Gentlemen,—The attention of this board having been directed to some articles of public news contained in Nos. 1. and II. of your publication, the *Reformer*, under the head of the 'Record of Progress,' of a character that cannot lawfully be published in any but a stamped newspaper, I have been desired to acquaint you with the circumstance, and to caution you against any future insertion of like matter.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant, J. TIMM, Solicitor of Inland Revenue."

To which the Editor returned the following reply:—

"Norwich, March 12th.—'Sir,—I have received your intimation that the intelligence given in the *Reformer*, under the heading 'Record of Progress,' cannot be lawfully inserted in any but a stamped newspaper. I should feel greatly obliged if you would inform me on what grounds the *Gentleman's Magazine*, *United Service Magazine*, *Tait's Edinburgh Magazine*, *Christian Observer*, *People's Journal*, with others that might be mentioned (including unstamped copies of the *Freeholder*, *Athenaeum*, &c.) are permitted to furnish similar information. Also, why the organs of societies of a literary, philanthropic, and scientific character are allowed to contain details of their respective operations, whilst that privilege is denied to the journal of a political association. Thanking you for your caution, and soliciting information upon these points,—I remain, sir, your obedient servant, the Editor of the *Reformer*."

The Solicitor wrote again as follows:—

"Inland Revenue, Somerset House, 13th March, 1850.—Gentlemen,—I am this morning in receipt of a letter without signature, but purporting to come from the editor of the *Reformer*; and, as it is written in reference to mine of the 7th instant, addressed to you, I reply to it as proceeding from you. The publications to which allusion is made are not before me, either officially or otherwise; I know, therefore, nothing of their contents; but, assuming them to be unstamped papers, and to contain matter which they ought not to publish, it is not for me to offer any explanation upon the subject, nor can the circumstance justify irregularities in others. I may, however, remark, as I am aware that the subject has been under notice, in reference more particularly to learned societies, that articles, although relating to the transactions of such societies, and therefore savouring of public news and intelligence, yet, as partaking of the character of a review, are not looked upon as matters to be objected to in unstamped publications. So, also, with regard to dramatic performances and such like.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant, J. TIMM, Solicitor of Inland Revenue."

Now, I submit it with all possible respect to the House, that, considering how enormous are the penalties to which a man is liable for any infringement of this act, the seizing of his machines and presses, and other dire calamities, we ought to have something more explicit, in the way of legal definition, than simply telling a man that he might write something that merely savours of

news, but that he must not regularly or formally convey intelligence to the public. (Hear, hear.) I hope that the noble Lord, or some member of his Government, will tell us what is meant by this definition of the Solicitor's. Because, remember that this is a penal statute, and all its provisions, and the reading of it, should be perfectly clear and explicit. (Hear, hear.) To tell a man that he may savour his writing with intelligence, but not give it, is to leave him in a position, with reference to a penal statute, in which no British subject should for a moment be left. (Hear, hear.) Here is some correspondence from another person whom you have prosecuted at Greenock, but who has found a very novel and ingenious way of evading the Stamp-office. His letter is dated March 13, 1850:—

"GREENOCK, Wednesday, 13th March, 1850.
"Sir,—I sent per post yesterday, one each, periodicals on paper and cloth. The former was abandoned, in consequence of an Exchequer process; the latter is still continued, and No. 27 will appear to-night. The prosecution was for breach of the last act restraining liberty of the press. In every paper is held to be a newspaper which contains 'news, events, intelligence, or occurrences, or any remarks or observations thereon, or upon any matter in Church or State.' On the proposal of this measure, Mr. Wakley sounded a proper alarm to no purpose, as the public were ignorant and lukewarm, and 'the best possible public instructors,' the stamped press, from interested motives, favourable to the destructive bill. 'Chambers's Journal,' 'Hogg's Instructor,' in truth, every publication less in size than 24 sheets demy, or sold for less than 6d., is illegal. The law is rarely enforced; yet, because some articles in mine gave offence to a 'little brief authority' here, I was served with a 'Victoria, greeting,' &c., and fined for five numbers £20 each. In January, 1849, a second attempt was made to put my *brochure* down; but having studied this oppressive act, I observed that as cloth was not prescribed, I might adopt it instead of paper, save the penny stamp, and escape the bonds, &c., to which newspapers are liable. I therefore, in conformity with law, use an inferior and more expensive medium for the diffusion of knowledge. But I hope you will see the utility of exposing the anomaly, that while others all over the kingdom, or quondam, safely despise or set at naught the law, I am compelled to respect it in an absurdity.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,
"JOHN LENNOX, printer, news agent, &c."

And here it is. The right hon. member here produced a printed cloth newspaper. I have another letter here, in which he mentions that the fines have been remitted, but still on condition of not publishing on paper what others are every day publishing around him without a stamp—namely, certain general observations upon public events. He is not even granted that permission to "savour" with intelligence which is graciously conceded to the *Norwich Reformer*. (Hear, hear.) I should mention that, in harmony with his altered material, he has altered the name of his journal, and now calls it the *Greenock News Clout*. (A laugh.) I say, then, that if you are to insist that no man shall observe on public intelligence, facts, or occurrences without a stamp, you ought to enforce your law universally, because it is fatal to its efficacy when you only single out particular cases for prosecution. (Hear, hear.) It involves you in a virtual censorship, and makes the Commissioners of Stamps judges of what the people should read, and what they should not. Are you prepared to establish such a censorship, presided over by the Solicitor to the Stamp-office? If you are not prepared to do this, you must do one of two things—either repeal the stamp duty on newspapers, or enforce it fairly upon all. (Hear.) Let us have no evasions. Make all pay equally, or relieve all equally. If you do not do this, you involve yourself into the other predicament, which no man in this House will, I am sure, attempt to justify—that of setting up in Somerset House a censorship on what is to be read by the community. (Hear, hear.) These are the grounds upon which I call upon you to vote with me for the second resolution, providing for the repeal of the stamp duty on newspapers. The revenue arising from it is stated to be about £350,000 per annum; but you will not lose all that by repeal. You will still have the stamp on all that go through the post, which will be as regards postal privileges precisely as they stand at present. There are 86 millions of stamps issued, and I have heard a calculation made, I believe by Mr. Rowland Hill, that 66 millions of those pass through the post; we will say 70 millions. I do not mean to say that all these 70 millions would continue to pass through the post if this compulsory stamp were removed, but I think it fair to presume that a considerable number would still pass. I am confirmed in this opinion because there are fifty-three registered papers which only stamp for posting, a clear proof that people will stamp newspapers for posting alone. (Hear, hear.) It is, I think, fairly to be presumed that the same rule would apply to many, and that the inducement of sending them by post would cause a great many of them to be stamped. It is clear, then, that I am not asking you to sacrifice the whole of this £350,000; all I am asking the House is to risk the sacrifice of a portion, and to confer, in risking that sacrifice, the inestimable boon of cheap newspapers among the people. There is no reason why, under favourable circumstances and fair legislation, newspapers should not be as cheap in this as in any other countries. We might have a penny weekly paper, and perhaps a penny daily paper, while for a higher class of newspaper a higher price would still be paid; many of the penny publications would become penny newspapers. (Hear, hear.) But it is reasonable to suppose the working man may obtain such an abridgment of the leading fact of the day as may be sufficient for him for a penny, and that penny and even halfpenny publications of a wholesome nature may come into general circulation. (Hear, hear.) He may have at these prices publications calculated to instruct him in the best means of procuring employment in his occupation, to assist him in earning his livelihood, and in fine, as I believe, preventing that unfortunate congestion of labour which is too often attendant on the frequent alterations and improvements in machinery. Look at the case of the hand-loom weavers, for instance. (Hear, hear.) I believe it is the want of sound facts, and of proper information upon which to reason, which causes the working people of this country to keep lingering about a place from which their occupation has fled, in the hope of an employment which is, practically speaking, dead or ever, thus depriving themselves of opportunities of improving their social condition. I would instance also your factory legislation. (Hear, hear.) I believe that cheap newspapers would be of infinite advantage in discussing all these questions respecting the factory population, and in giving facts upon which the working men form a just and impartial judgment on their own case. (Hear, hear.) Besides, let me say one word with reference to the laws of the land. You hold it necessary that every man should be acquainted with the law, and you will not allow him to plead ignorance as an excuse for crime. Therefore, why prevent spreading through the country accounts of the proceedings in your courts of justice through the medium of cheap newspapers, which are the only practicable means by which the working man can obtain a knowledge of the law. (Hear, hear.) Is it likely that a working man would study Blackstone or Coke's Institutes? He cannot; but accurate accounts of the proceedings in courts of justice would give him the necessary information. I say that you are bound to let him have it; at least not to prevent him becoming acquainted with the laws which he is expected to obey. (Hear.) Are we to infringe this great principle for the sake of some paltry £150,000 revenue? (Hear, hear.) On these grounds I trust I shall have as favourable a consideration for the newspaper stamp as for the duty on paper. My next resolution I hardly feel at liberty to enter upon, because the subject is in the hands of my honourable friend the member for Dumfries, who has paid great attention to it. But I placed it as one of the names of taxes upon knowledge, and that the motion would be incomplete unless it were included. It is a tax of great inequality in its operation, and pressing large amount of advertisement duty on his application for a place as is paid by the rich proprietor who wishes to dispose of his estate, both paying the same amount, eighteenpence. (Hear, hear.) I remember that Mr. James Mills put the question very clearly. He says that the old fashion was to advertise wares through the public crier, and he puts a case. Suppose that when the public crier was about to announce to the world the sale of a bankrupt's stock, or some important event in the way of news, or to inquire after some lost child claimed by a distracted mother, the exciseman should be close at his heels, and when he attempted to open his mouth should stop him, and insist upon eighteenpence as a necessary preliminary to each announcement (for it is a tax upon speech, the only difference being that by being put on paper the announcement is given more correctly). But Mr. Mills goes on to say that the exciseman making such a demand would be met with universal execration; indeed, he is not sure whether the people would not in such a case try physical force as a means of getting rid of him. Why, the advertisement duty is a monstrous tax upon calamity. (Hear, hear.) You cannot advertise a subscription to a ragged school, or the sufferings of some deserving individual, without paying a large fine to the state. People do not know, when they give their money towards the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, how much of that money goes to swell the revenues of the state. I must add that this advertisement duty is one that gives only a small amount of revenue—about £150,000 a year, and if you deduct what the state itself pays for advertisements, it will be much smaller. (Hear, hear.) How absurd it is to see the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who advertises in every paper in the kingdom, calling the revenue £153,000. He ought to deduct all that he himself pays for the Government advertisements. I should have been glad to have waited for returns which have been moved for on the subject, but I did not like to lose my chance of bringing the question forward. What is this paltry sum of £150,000 compared to the injury it must do to trade, to industry, and to those in distress. (Hear, hear.) I could mention cases of great oppression, to show how this works in reference to newspapers. I will take the case of the *Daily News*. That paper, some time past, proposed to give a list of all sales past and sales to come, just as the papers give hunting appointments and law notices at present; this matter very valuable and interesting to the public, and likely to be a useful feature in the paper. But what said the Stamp Office? You must not insert this list of sales to come without the payment of 1s. 6d. on each announcement; and the paper was consequently obliged to discontinue a practice which appears to me to have been quite as reasonable and as legitimate a piece of news as the hunting appointments in the *Morning Post*. Why is it necessary to come down so hardly on trade and knowledge? (Hear, hear.) Why do we single out those two interests for all our fiscal exactions, while we grant exemptions for much less useful purposes? (Hear, hear.) I believe that the expense of advertising in the United States, as compared with this country, differs so much that I am almost afraid to name the advantage which the citizen of that country has over us in point of economy. The cost of a single advertisement is, I believe, six or seven times as much in this country as in the United States; and I believe that when you advertise by the year, that which would cost £200 a year in the *Times*, may be done for £6 or £7 in the United States, and that, too, in papers of equal circulation; besides which, the advertiser gets a copy of the paper. I do not mean to say that the analogy is strict, because the habits of this country are different, and we could not be expected to conform to such a system immediately, although I believe that, ultimately, the system would be adopted. But if there were a disposition to advertise so generally as it is done in the United States, all I say is, that your advertisement duty would be a fatal objection, making that cost £200

a year which, in the United States, could be done for £8 or £9. Is not this an enormous drawback on trade and industry, and on the ready communication which is necessary among civilised men, not only for commercial, but for social purposes? (Hear, hear.) I will simply say further, on this part of the subject, that my hon. friend means to bring it forward as a substantive motion, and therefore, it is not necessary I should trouble the House with more lengthened observations. My last resolution refers to a small, but not unimportant matter, only £8000 or £9000 a year, but which amounts to a very considerable percentage on foreign books imported into this country. It was mentioned before the committee that it formed a very important obstacle to the supplying of libraries with expensive works, and gave rise to much fraud and irregularity, and, therefore, I trust that I shall have the consent of the House to its removal from the tariff. It is really a duty which ought to be removed, being so small that it is not worth collecting, while at the same time it obstructs that free intercommunication in books which should subsist between civilised countries. I now submit my first resolution with reference to the paper duty, and I do earnestly hope that it may receive the favourable consideration of the House. (Hear, hear.) My conviction is, that if you do not remove these taxes you afford grounds for suspecting that your object is to hinder the spread of knowledge among the great body of the people, and that you are laying in a store of great evils, which will fall on this country at some future time, and be a not unfit retribution for our present erroneous policy. (Loud cheers.) The right hon. member concluded by moving the first resolution.

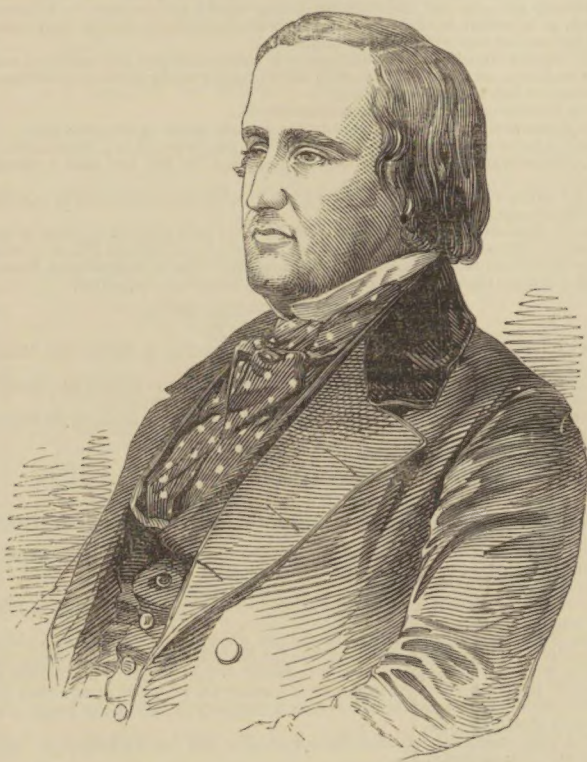
Mr. COWAN, in seconding the motion, gave some results of his own experience in proof of the loss and inconvenience in the manufacture that attended the levying of the excise duty upon paper.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER made no complaint against his right hon. friend for bringing forward his motion; but still less did he complain of having had to listen to his very able and eloquent speech. To the success of his motion, however, he should certainly object. He would not attempt, nor had he ever attempted, to prove the abstract merits of this or any other tax. He feared taxation was a necessary evil. Some might be more objectionable than others, and he trusted he had always shown a disposition to remove such burdens whenever circumstances placed it in his power to do so. (Hear, hear.) It was not so long since it had been his duty to state to the House the taxes which he thought it desirable to remove. He did not think the proposition which he then made was received with any dissatisfaction by the House generally, and the course which he adopted then he was prepared to adopt for the future. He held it to be the most wise and prudent course not to commit oneself by previous promises, which could only end in dissatisfaction caused by exciting hopes as to remission which could never be realised. His right hon. friend had referred to the opinion of the Commissioners of Excise on the subject of the duty on paper, but he referred his right hon. friend to their opinion with respect to the duty on bricks, and even now he did not think it could be said that he had made a bad selection. He would only say, further, as he had already said, that he thought it far better not to commit himself by any argument against these or any other taxes, the remission of which might be hereafter pressed on the attention of the House, but to wait till the opportunity arose for dealing with each in its turn. His right hon. friend had referred to what took place in 1842, under the Government of the right hon. Baronet the member for Tamworth, nor did he know that he himself would be indisposed to acquiesce in a remission of taxation, if any unobjectionable source could be pointed out from which £5,000,000 of revenue could be raised. (Hear, hear.) The excise duty on paper did not operate precisely in the same way as the excise duty on malt, spirits, and bricks, where the regulations of the excise interfered with the process of manufacture and improvement. The Excise Commissioners stated, that, unlike other duties, the process of paper manufacture was exempt from excise interference, to which exemption the Commissioners attributed the very great progress which had been made in the application of various improvements to that manufacture by the introduction of machinery, which had enabled the manufacturer, by combining two processes, that of making and that of drying paper, through the agency of a large cylinder heated by steam, to complete in a few minutes a quantity of paper which formerly it would have taken many weeks to finish. Last year, when he received a deputation of the paper manufacturers, to whom he gave the answer that, as there was next to no surplus, he could not reduce the duty, he asked them whether there was any interference with their manufacture to which they objected, and whether he could facilitate the working of their trade in any way, and the answer was that there were no improvements to be made, that the excise did not interfere with them, but what they wanted was absolute repeal. Another argument in favour of the motion was the heavy burden which this tax was supposed to impose on publication; but this, he apprehended, had been overrated, for he had been told that a very valuable work, with which many hon. members were no doubt acquainted, "The Commercial Dictionary," which weighed 4½ lb. and sold for 50s., was only taxed to the amount of 4d., which he could not regard as a very heavy tax. (Hear, hear.) He did not undervalue any of the arguments used by his right hon. friend, but he had never said that he would keep up the duty to prevent cheap newspapers from being published. Far from it. Nor did he ever maintain that the duty ought to be preserved as a security against libels. His right hon. friend had certainly with great ingenuity hunted up a great many difficulties which might occur, but he had not heard practically any complaints made on the subject of interference. It was very easy to magnify one or two instances; but practically, as far as he had heard, no great complaints had been made, or dissatisfaction expressed; and he rather thought, therefore, that the grievance existed rather in the imagination of his right hon. friend than in the conviction of parties really interested. He certainly did object to his proposition, as he had objected to the repeal of the window duty, on the ground of revenue. His right hon. friend had very fairly stated the amount of the various duties embraced in his motion; and it certainly would be idle, in an assembly like that, to deal piecemeal with the subject. He did not say that some of those duties ought not to be repealed; but a due regard to the public interest forbade him to pledge himself to one more than another. If there was one thing more than another which a Chancellor of the Exchequer was bound to do, it was not to disclose his intentions as regarded taxation till the time came for making a definite proposition to the Legislature. He objected to the repeal of these duties; but still more did he object to make any promises for time to come. The amount of the paper duties was increasing, which showed no symptoms of decline in the trade. Last year they produced £810,000. In 1840, the amount was £581,000; in 1845, £758,000; in 1848, £745,000; and in 1849, £810,000. (Hear, hear.) The produce of the newspaper duty was £348,200; advertisement duty, £163,000; books, £7700; and the produce of these duties in 1848 was £1,264,000; and in 1849, £1,329,000. Now, he was certainly not prepared to sacrifice anything like £1,300,000. (Hear, hear.) He hoped the House would forgive him if he took the earliest opportunity, after what had happened, of addressing a few words to them generally on the subject of those propositions for remission of taxation which had been within a very short time, were now, and which, apparently, were still to be made. (Hear, hear.) He hoped he was not more nervous than Chancellors of the Exchequer might be fairly supposed to be on matters connected with taxes, or any question affecting the finances or revenue of the country; but he could not look without serious anxiety at the course which the House, at least a great portion of it, seemed disposed to pursue on various questions respecting taxation. He had had the honour of holding the office which he now happened to fill, however unworthily, for three years and a half. He had the misfortune of holding office during times of extraordinary pressure, of famine in Ireland, of commercial distress in 1847, of disturbances on the Continent in 1847 and 1848, all of which produced a depression in the revenues and finances of the country. Then there were the extraordinary expenses entailed by the Kafir war. Over all these things the Government could exercise no control whatever, and they naturally led to a considerable deficiency. In the course of last year financial matters improved. He had had the satisfaction of announcing a balance-sheet in January, giving a large surplus. If, however, with this surplus the Government was to be pressed with these demands, there would be greater danger to the public credit than when a deficiency existed (hear, hear), because whereas at that time the deficiency arose from circumstances over which they had no control, the deficiency which he apprehended at this moment was likely to be produced by the wilful and deliberate conduct of that House. (Hear, hear.) He had stated about a month ago the probable surplus of the ensuing year. He had proposed to give relief on two items of taxation, with respect to which he believed a general concurrence of opinion existed to the amount of £75,000. He had proposed to apply £250,000 to purchasing up those most unprofitable annuities called the Equivalent Fund, leaving himself only £500,000, which he thought no Chancellor of the Exchequer would have been justified in parting with. He found the pressure of the mortgage duty very great, and therefore proposed to redeem it from half per cent to a quarter per cent; but the House of Commons, not satisfied with that, voted a further reduction, the loss occasioned by which to the revenue, at the lowest estimate, could not be less than £100,000. Now, suppose this tax to be taken off, amounting to £1,300,000.

Mr. M. GIBSON.—Take the postage on newspapers into account. The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER: It was not worth while disputing about a few thousands in dealing with so large an item. Suppose the proposition to be carried into immediate effect, there must be either an imposition of taxes or a reduction of expenditure. (Hear, hear.) He begged to remind the House that all the great services had been already voted; and however anxious anybody might be for economy—and he would yield to none in his desire for its judicious application to the public service—he did not see how he could ask for further reduction this year, unless he were prepared to propose new taxes. It might be very well for hon. members on that side of the House, who were looking forward to the imposition of direct, as a substitute for indirect, taxation, to drive the Government into a position in which, having a deficiency, they must impose new taxes, and then introduce a proposition for the imposition of a direct tax; or it might be very well for hon. members opposite, who seemed to feel that as long as there was a surplus there would be no hope of carrying out their proposition of re-imposing import duties on commodities, to unite with them for the purpose of carrying out their views. But whatever effect such conduct might produce on the Government, let hon. gentlemen reflect on the position in which they would place the House. (Hear, hear.) The struggle would immediately begin between the advocates of direct and indirect taxation; and, in that contest, they might both come to the conclusion that they had better have submitted to the existing taxes until a surplus enabled Government to deal with some of them. But what would be the effect on the character and credit of the country? (Hear, hear.) It was most essential that the public credit should be kept up. He did not accuse hon. members of any desire to interfere with it. He knew hon. members on his own side of the House disclaimed any notion of repudiation. (Cheers.) He did not accuse them of any such doctrines; but he must say he feared their votes sometimes tended to place the country in a position in which fears of repudiation might be entertained. (Cheers, and cries of "No, no.") If the House wilfully and dishonestly created a deficiency, without being pretty well agreed as to how it was to be made good, the public creditor might

not unreasonably entertain a fear that the public credit might not be maintained. If propositions such as these were to be carried, they must inflict, he would not say an irreparable, but a most dangerous wound on the character and credit of this nation in the eyes of foreign countries. There was also another motion of his hon. friend the member for Montrose to-night, involving the repeal of £1,500,000 of taxes on the remaining manufactured articles and agricultural produce now subjected to customs duties. He had sent for a return for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of remission which this would entail, and found that it would be £1,538,000. So that they had before them to-night propositions for the repeal of duties to the amount of £2,800,000. (Hear, hear.) He hoped, therefore, hon. members would not think him unduly anxious on the subject; but, when propositions of this kind were made night after night—when, on a recent occasion, the repeal of a duty amounting to £1,820,000 was proposed, and the duty was only saved by a very narrow majority, it was enough to excite very serious anxiety as to the effect which votes of this kind might produce, given without full consideration of their possible consequences on the character and credit of the country. These were the grounds on which he felt bound to resist the motion of his right hon. friend. He thought it would be most exceedingly unwise and unjust, as it would be discreditable to the character of this country, if they were to vote away £1,300,000 of taxes. He thought it would be equally unwise—he would not say discreditable—by their votes that night to pledge themselves to deal with those duties next session. He believed those who were most anxious for economy would agree with him in thinking that it would be exceedingly unwise to throw open the whole matter without the prospect of a settlement. When the financial position of most of their neighbours was a source of infinite alarm and danger, whilst this country owed her secure position to the state of her public credit, would it not be most unwise to throw away such advantages, and jeopardise the tranquillity of the country? To throw away all the advantages with which it had pleased Providence to bless them, would be nothing short of political suicide. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. HUME said that no man was more anxious to see the public credit maintained than himself. He had never heard the doctrine of repudiation broached without strenuously opposing it; but he protested against supplying £700,000 to the reduction of the National Debt when so many obnoxious taxes remained unrepealed. The right hon. gentleman had not fairly stated the state of the finances. The revenue remained undiminished, but it was the extravagance of the Government in increasing our establishments which had led to the deficiency. The subject was most important at this moment, when such large sums were expended for the promotion of education. He agreed with the remark of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that a considerable amount of revenue was at stake, and that he might be called upon to reduce taxes to the amount of £2,000,000. The right hon. gentleman also said that some of the principal votes had been agreed to. But the money was not yet expended, and the House had the power of reducing the amount. The expenditure of £4,000,000 more than was necessary for the public service was calculated to bring discredit on the country. If the Government would remove the impediments to the employment of capital and industry in the manufacture of paper, this country would be able to supply the whole world with



W. KEOGH, ESQ., M.P. FOR ATHLONE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

that article, for no country presented greater facilities for its manufacture. The removal of the duty on paper would lead, also, to an increase in the profits on every branch of trade, for there was not a single branch in which a supply of paper was not required, and the loss anticipated by the right hon. gentleman would be more than compensated by the increased consumption. He would ask the right hon. gentleman, who professed such an anxiety to keep up the credit of the country, how that credit was maintained by the continuance of the African taxes? (Hear, hear.) Any deficiency which might arise from the repeal of the taxes on knowledge might be easily met by the reduction of our enormous military establishment. The House, having adopted Free Trade in one respect, ought to apply the principle in every case. (Hear, hear.) He entreated the House not to listen to the request of the right hon. gentleman, but to take his (Mr. Hume's) advice. ("Hear," and a laugh.) The country was borne down by the enormous expense of our establishments, and by the pressure of taxation, which was too high by at least £7,000,000 or £8,000,000. Let the House remove these obnoxious taxes, and thus add to the means for the diffusion of knowledge, which could not but tend to the removal of ignorance, pauperism, and crime. (Hear, hear.) If the House would only adopt this advice, the Government would be obliged to reduce the expenditure, commencing with the removal of the African squadron. (Hear, hear.) He cordially supported the resolutions, and would vote for any reduction in our unnecessary establishments to meet the deficiency which might be thus occasioned. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. EWART took up the alternative as laid down by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and pronounced in favour of an increase in direct taxation, provided they could thus purchase a relaxation in those taxes that fettered the industry or interfered with the comforts or well-being of the great body of the people.

Mr. AGLONY professed so sincere an approval of the proposition, that he intended to vote against it, and created some lively sensation in the House by the arguments he adduced to reconcile his opinion and his vote. To succeed in obtaining a vote, he contended, would place the question in a false light, besides embarrassing the Government. He would not vote with a majority of economists whose zeal for tax-remission was so newly born.

Colonel THOMPSON said that the hon. mover and seconder of the motion had convinced him that the taxes upon knowledge were amongst the first which the Chancellor of the Exchequer would do well to remove, when able to do so. But looking back to some recent events and changes in our financial system, he was reminded of the old proverb, that no man can eat his cake and have his cake. (Laughter.) In voting for the motion, therefore, he must not be considered as doing more than expressing his hope that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would remove those taxes on the earliest opportunity. (Laughter.) He commiserated the minister placed over that department under all the troubles brought upon him by his treasury surplus, and compared the House to a shoal of fish, who rose at any hook that was baited with a reduction of taxes.

Mr. ROEBUCK denounced the folly of treating as a merely fiscal question a proposition which involved the education of the people and the removal of that turbulent ignorance which flowed like burning lava beneath the surface of society. It was a question for the home minister, not for the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Complimenting the Prime Minister upon the possession of many noble qualities, he refused him credit for courage, seeing the hesitation he showed in availing himself of the opportunities for doing great things afforded by his unassailable position in the House and country. Power, it was shown on all hands, was rapidly passing into the possession of the multitude; and it could only be made safe by the accompaniment of knowledge.

Lord J. RUSSELL: The members who were not in the house when my right hon. friend spoke, can hardly have any very correct notion of the speech he made from the representations made of it by the hon. and learned gentleman who has just sat down. The hon. and learned gentleman asks me not to look at it as a fiscal matter, but to regard it in that spirit of greatness which properly belongs to it. But I think the view which my right hon. friend took of this motion was an important one, and the one on which the decision of the House ought to depend. My right hon. friend alluded to the proposition which he made in this House after he had made the financial statement of the year. He alluded to the taxes which he proposed to abolish or to reduce. He stated that, after paying off £250,000 in the manner which he explained on a former occasion, he would have more than £400,000 on the whole financial estimate of the year, and he then adverted to the propositions very lately made for the reduction of taxation. He alluded to the motion lately made, and very nearly carried, for a reduction of the window-tax, amounting to £1,800,000. He alluded to the proposition now made by the right hon. member for Manchester for a reduction to the extent of £1,300,000. He also alluded to the proposition of the hon. member for Maidstone for a reduction of various duties on agricultural and manufacturing produce to the extent of about £1,500,000. These reductions, he stated, amounted altogether to not less than £4,600,000,

and he said if the House, without considering the scope of all these various propositions, should entertain them when the surplus amounted to no more than £400,000, they would find themselves again in a financial difficulty and embarrassment, and would change a position which was safe, secure, and honourable, for one that was unsafe, insecure, and injurious to the credit of the country. (Cheers.) I may confidently ask the House if that was a petty view to take of the question? (Hear.) When the hon. and learned member for Sheffield talks of revolution, and points to the state of neighbouring nations, I may remind him that I know no cause that has been so fertile in revolutions as the mismanagement of finances, bringing in its train income insufficient for expenditure, national bankruptcy, and national confusion. (Cheers.) If that be the case, the warning of my right hon. friend is not thrown away. (Hear.) He took no trifling fiscal view of the question, but looking to the interests of the country, he asked the House to consider these matters on the whole, and whether they were dealing with the stamp duties, the window-tax, or any other tax, to consider not the hardship of the particular tax, but how the reduction or abolition of it would affect the general interests of the nation. (Hear.) The hon. and learned member for Sheffield has talked as if I were actuated by a narrow spirit and a contracted mind. If I do not rise to the height of the hon. and learned gentleman's magnificent conceptions, I trust I am not an enemy to the progress of knowledge, and that I am not unfriendly to the repeal of any taxes that can be spared. But on the present occasion we have the superior duty of seeing that the general credit of the country is not shaken. It behoves the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and it behoves the First Lord of the Treasury, to consider well before adopting steps which might be injurious to the credit of the country. It was easy to talk of supplying the deficiency. But let the House look at the different views of different members. The hon. member for Montrose constantly asks us to reduce our naval and military estimates. But the principal part of these estimates have been voted, and a great majority of the House are of opinion that it would be dangerous, in the present state of Europe, to leave this country defenceless. (Hear.) Again, many hon. gentlemen opposite see no great mischief in some deficiency of income, because—according to their policy—it might be supplied by the imposition of duties on agricultural and manufacturing imposts. But another party in the House would regret any such proposal. The result would be that there would be no agreement, either as to reducing the expenditure to diminish income, or as to the mode of raising the income to meet the expenditure. And thus, again, the House and the country would find itself in a financial position which would be discreditable to them, where there is no difficulty before it in the position in which it is at present stands. (Hear, hear.) With regard to this particular tax, I do not feel disposed to say much. I admit the truth of what the hon. member for Edinburgh has stated, that when gentlemen come upon deputations on various matters to the minister of the Crown—but particularly with reference to objections to certain taxes—the Minister's lips are sealed on the subject. It really is the case that there is hardly a deputation which comes to the Government on the question of any of the customs duties—the tea duties, the soap tax, or any other impost—which has not admirable reasons to state and grounds to show how and why such and such taxes are injurious to the country. I admit I cannot well argue with these deputations. (Hear, hear.) If I were to say that this or that tax ought to be abolished as injurious to the country, I should very soon hear of my having been guilty of a breach of faith if I did not come down to this House immediately with a proposition for the abolition of the same tax. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) Sir, I do not think the present Government, or any other Government with which I have been connected, have shown any indifference to the evils inflicted by the tax to which my right hon. friend has called the attention of the House. (Hear.) I find that in 1833 a reduction was made on the advertisement duty of from 3s. 6d. to 1s. 6d. (as the noble Lord was understood to say). Lord Montagu reduced the duty on newspapers to an extent of loss to the revenue of no less than £750,000. The reduction of the stamp duty amounted to £395,000, and in another item the reduction was £394,000; so that in all no less than a reduction amounting to more than £779,000 has been made by Governments with whom I have been connected in those duties a reduction of which my right hon. friend now proposes. (Hear.) This shows, at least, that we have not been indifferent to the evils which have been caused by these taxes; and, supposing that amid all the variety of taxes there were none more objectionable, we have shown that we should be ready to reduce them if their own merits were not able to reconcile them. Notwithstanding the very able speech of my right hon. friend, I think there is great exaggeration in it. My hon. friend the member for Montrose said that great evils arose from the tax on paper, in consequence of goods being packed in paper parcels. The cost of merchandise, he said, was increased, and no diminution took place in the price of the articles. That was no tax upon knowledge. Now, with regard to newspapers, I think it is desirable that the people in general should have political intelligence—I think it is desirable that all the news of this great country should be generally known, that knowledge should be as widely spread as possible; but, at the same time, I must say that there is a great part of that which is contained in newspapers which cannot be called by the name of knowledge, and by withholding from the people could not be said to be depriving them of that which ought to be communicated. My hon. friend referred to several newspapers. There was the character of Lord Grey, drawn, I should suppose, by Jacob Omnium; but I could not distinguish the style of the articles to which allusion has been made. If this present newspaper tax was taken away, the effect would not be that the people would be supplied with knowledge which was now taken away, but I believe that the newspapers with which they would furnish themselves would be like those unstamped ones to which they are at present left. With respect to the *Times* and other papers that charge 5d., with a stamp duty of 1d., the fact is that they put themselves to an immense expense to obtain intelligence. A gentleman acquainted with the details of newspaper expenditure told me that the cost of the intelligence from France alone amounted to £600 a year; and that was the cause of the high price of those newspapers, and not the penny stamp duty imposed upon them. (Hear.) It is not, therefore, that I think these taxes desirable to be maintained, that I oppose the proposition before the House, but that I will not enter into any pledge that they should be abolished, and that other taxes should be substituted in their stead. (Hear.) When my hon. friend the member for Montrose spoke of the window-tax and the soap-tax, he said, "Oh, all your sanitary measures are totally useless unless you abolish those taxes altogether." I do freely admit that there are objections to the maintenance of these taxes; that they interfere with the comfort and cleanliness of the people at large. (Hear.) I think these taxes are as objectionable as those which we are at present discussing. The hon. and learned gentleman who has last addressed the House has described us as persons of contracted minds ("Hear" and laughter); and, referring to the present state of France, he shows us what perils we are likely to encounter, if we do not take a warning from it. The present state of France is not owing to any excessive amount in the price of newspapers, but to the want of proper instruction on the part of its people. I am told that for a halfpenny you can obtain a newspaper full of epigrammatic writing, and the news of the day; a newspaper containing not only comments upon the Government of its own country, but of all countries, comments which make all government impossible, and schoolmasters abroad to make religion odious. (Hear, hear.) Then, sir, I say, when we have cheap newspapers making government impossible, and schoolmasters abroad to make religion odious, I can more easily explain the state of France than I am ready to imitate the policy which has produced the effects which we have witnessed. (Hear, hear.) I cannot believe with the hon. and learned Member who has last addressed the House, that it was only lately the people of this country were admitted to the share of political privileges and power which they ought to enjoy. The men of England have been long used to take part in the political movements of their country, and their hearts have often throbbed with the recollection of the victories of their empire, and they were men who loved the institutions and throne of their native land. Having these feelings, they have always watched with anxiety and care every turn in the public events of their country; and while they have followed some Minister's changes with enthusiasm and admiration, have been as ready to condemn others for incompetency and inefficiency. (Hear, hear.) The honourable gentleman tells me that my colleagues and I care for nothing but holding on to place. Now it was but the other day I was told with respect to the measure of the slave trade that I was wantonly increasing a great mischief. So long as we can maintain the principles upon which we think the greatness of this country has been founded—so long as we can maintain the country in the possession of those elements she has long had the happiness of enjoying—so long as we can keep her in the pursuit of that path which she has hitherto taken—so long as we remain the advisers of our Sovereign, we shall always recommend the House to take that course which we think most desirable for the national welfare. I must therefore, ask the House to reject the motion of the right hon. gentleman. I do so to the House with every respect for him, and agreeing in many of the statements he has made. (Hear.) I do say that this is not the occasion nor the time when the House of Commons could lightly condemn those matters which are necessary for the support of the public obligations, and the maintenance of those establishments which are essential for our defence. (Hear.) I therefore ask the House to concur with me in the rejection of this motion; and to agree in maintaining the credit of the country which you represent. ("Hear," and cries of "Divide.")

Mr. DISRAELI said—Before we divide I wish to take this opportunity of explaining in a very few words the reasons upon which I found the vote I intend to give upon the present occasion. I understand the division to which we are about to proceed, to take place upon the first resolution of the hon. member for Manchester—namely, that such financial arrangements ought to be made as would enable Parliament to repeal the excise duty on paper. That being the simple proposition to be considered, I shall not indulge in the views which have characterised the speeches of the hon. member for Sheffield and the noble Lord the First Lord of the Treasury. They are both equally opposed to Red Republicanism, and there I will leave them. (Laughter.) Although it was of importance for the House to enter into the case, that after the vast reduction of taxation, a reduction to the amount of £9,000,000 sterling, principally pressing upon trade, and after having repealed those laws which raised a duty upon foreign produce, yet we still found year after year, day after day, and hour after hour, that the burdens of taxation became more grievous and oppressive. Nor should he remind the House, especially those who sat on the same side with himself, that when their constituencies complained of the burdens upon them, it was said they could only make up the deficiency in the revenue by having recourse to import duties. According to the details placed before them by that resolution, they were called upon to repeal duties to the amount of £750,000. Now, he could not view that question as utterly unconnected with the financial expositions of the Government, to which the noble Lord had himself referred. He was not present when the right hon. gentleman had spoken, but he thought that the proceedings of the last night were sufficiently indicative of the measures of the Government in that respect. He held it as a general rule that there were two considerations which ought to influence every minister of finance in dealing with that happy and unac-

customed matter—a surplus revenue. The first consideration was, that any suffering interest in the country ought to be relieved. And if there were no particular interest in a depressed state requiring relief, then the next duty of the minister ought to be to relieve all the interests in the community by a general reduction of taxation, and a diminution of the public debt of the country. Such, in his mind, were the influences which should guide a minister of finance in dealing with a surplus revenue. When it was announced that we had a surplus revenue, believing that there was an interest in the country which was suffering more particularly than any other, a matter which was admitted by all the members of that House, he had brought forward a proposition to devote a portion of that surplus to the relief of that interest which was so oppressed (Hear, hear). What had been the conduct of the Government upon that occasion? They had opposed that proposition. They said that, under all the circumstances of the case, they felt justified in resisting the motion for the application of the surplus revenue of the country to the relief of that particular interest. He failed in the object he then attempted to effect. What had been the conduct of Government after that? Did they devote that surplus to the reduction of the public debt or the diminution of the burdens which pressed upon all classes? (Hear.) They did not. They came forward with a proposition which he thought he was justified in saying was most insulting to the country. They proposed a reduction of the excise duty on bricks ("Hear," and laughter.) He could say with truth, that that measure was accepted by those for whom it was announced as a measure of relief, with utter derision. (Hear.) They had reduced an item in the revenue from one and a half million to half a million. The government were at present in the possession of a surplus revenue of one million, and they were asked by the hon. member for Manchester to apply part of that to a reduction of the duty upon paper. Before he referred to that, there was one observation which he had to make in reference to the present question. It was true that the proposition to repeal the excise duty on paper, so far as it applied to the customs duties, was not a proposition to discontinue a tax pressing upon an interest represented at his side of the House. Now he did maintain that there was nothing more dangerous in principle than to make the question of the reduction of taxation a question as between town and country. (Hear.) He condemned those who wished to convey to the public, that the only relief from taxation which they at the opposition side of the House wanted to enjoy, was relief for one class and for no other. The question of relief from taxation was a national matter. If a measure of relief was brought forward for one particular class, it was because that class was the only suffering one. (Hear.) The Chancellor of the Exchequer (continued the hon. member) having declined to be influenced by either of those considerations which I think ought to direct the conduct of an administration, and finding that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with a surplus revenue, and taking into account the present proposition, I am to consider whether it is most for the advantage of the country that the excise duty on paper be repealed, or the Chancellor of the Exchequer left in the possession of those funds, for the discreet exercise of which I have no security; because the Chancellor of the Exchequer, let it be remembered, after the events of last night, did not come forward at half-past four o'clock to say, and frankly tell us, what he intended to do with his surplus, and whether he proposed to proceed with his measure with respect to the stamps or not. He left us in complete obscurity upon that point, and he permitted us to consider, under the most favourable circumstances, the first proposition of the right hon. gentleman the member for Manchester. What is that proposition? Is there any man in this house who has two opinions on the abstract merits of that proposition? Is it possible, that on its abstract merits any person can entertain an opinion different from that of the right hon. gentleman? (Hear, hear.) There may be two opinions as to the effect of the advertisement duty; there may be two opinions as to the effect of the stamp duty on newspapers; and as we have not yet arrived at the resolutions on those subjects, I decline for the present to express any opinion with respect to them. But that there is no greater evil abstractly than an excise duty—that the abstract evils of an excise duty are aggravated in an instance in which to material injury moral injury is added, is a position which I think no one will contest. I shall not here enlarge on those interesting details on which the right hon. gentleman dwelt, and with which many of us are already familiar. But when the expression "tax on knowledge" is sneered at as fanciful by the First Minister of the Crown, I may be permitted to remind the House that at this very time Mr. Chambers has given up a publication of 80,000 numbers a week—one of the most instructive and rational publications that ever appeared, and one of the most conducive to good government and public morality, the fact being that he was beaten out of the market by a publication in Holywell-street, which exceeded his in circulation, and which, from the cheaper form in which it appeared—a form not suited to his work—carried the town before it; and that a publication dedicated to the most indecent and blasphemous purposes. (Hear, hear.) Then I ask, can we, in the present state of the revenue—the Chancellor of the Exchequer having declined to relieve that interest—and having been supported by the House in his resolution upon this subject—whose sufferings we attempted to relieve, and not having offered us the alternative of a reduction on any considerable scale of the general taxation of the country—can we do better with the resources at our command than assent to the first proposition of the right hon. gentleman the member for Manchester? In my opinion it would be a prudent, a politic, and a beneficial motion to assent to. And we are to be prevented from assenting to a resolution so justified by circumstances, so practical in its character, and so beneficial in its results, by the ensanguined phantom of a revolutionary republic being conjured up before us, and the possible catastrophe of a change of ministry being intimated in Delphic utterances? (Hear, hear.) I believe we are not near any misfortune of that kind. The fact stated by the noble Lord himself, that the people of England are a people educated to political knowledge and public liberty—an observation most just and true—affords the best security at all times for their good conduct. And after all that we have seen during this eventful session, especially as regards finance—after all those scenes with respect to the African squadron, to which, from motives of delicacy, I intend not to allude, and which I know, from the uneasiness always manifested on that side of the House at the mention of the subject, have thrown a shade of a somewhat darkish tint on the Liberal benches—after all that we witnessed last night, and all that we may witness on future nights, do not let the House be frightened from taking a course justified by circumstances, a course which really involves no wild proceeding whatever, which the state of public opinion and the state of the exchequer alike justify; but let them support, as I shall presume to support in the present instance, the first resolution of the right hon. gentleman for Manchester. (Hear.)

The House then divided—
For the resolution 89
Against it 190
Majority against the resolution 101

The next two resolutions, which proposed the abolition of the stamp duties on newspapers and the abolition of the advertisement duties, were then put, and negatived, without any discussion.

The fourth and last resolution, which proposed the repeal of the Customs duty on foreign books, having been put,
Mr. ROEBUCK said, he could see no reason whatever why a poor man in this country should not be allowed to read a German or a French book without the payment of any duty.

Mr. HUME said that some reviews, of great value at present, issued from the Calcutta press, and yet they could not be imported into this country without the payment of a duty.

Mr. GOLDBURN said, he believed that the duty on foreign books was little more than an equivalent for the excise duty on paper in this country.

Mr. HUME said, that at all events it acted as an impediment to the introduction of those books.

The resolution was then negatived, without a division.

INVESTMENT OF SAVINGS.
Mr. STANLEY moved for a select committee to suggest means for facilitating the safe investment of their savings by the working classes of the country. The accumulation of capital by the higher classes was estimated at 60 millions yearly, a sum which he thought would be doubled if the industrious part of the population were encouraged to economy, and placed within reach of safe and profitable investment. To effect this object, the hon. member proposed that the law of mercantile associations should be altered, so as to enable a body of small capitalists to unite in carrying out enterprises of a remunerative character in building, commerce, or agriculture.

Mr. LABOUCHERE said that the object of Mr. Stanley was of great importance, and he should not oppose the appointment of the committee, recommending, however, some alteration in the terms of the motion.

After a few words from Mr. P. HOWARD and Mr. SLANEY, the motion was agreed too.

APPOINTMENTS IN INDIA.
Mr. SADLER moved for some returns of the names and salaries of British employes in India, since the year 1832, for the purpose, of showing that members of the Irish bar had not enjoyed their fair share of patronage in the distribution of Indian appointments.

Sir J. HOBHOUSE declined to order the proposed returns, which comprised a miscellaneous assortment of appointments, and for which the sole reason adduced had been some statements of the neglect of raising Irish baristers to the Indian bench. As to the general accusation of making invidious national distinctions in the appointment of patronage in the East, he met it by a direct denial.

Mr. KEOGH considered that the members of the Irish bar had just cause to complain of the neglect they had experienced.

Mr. C. ANSTET assigned the blame to the Indian Government, rather than to the Board of Control.

The House divided—
For the motion 23
Against 53—30
Adjourned at half-past 12 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.
The House sat from noon to half-past five o'clock.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.
Mr. W. J. FOX moved the second reading of his Education Bill.

Mr. A. STAFFORD denounced the measure as an outrage on the religious convictions of the country, and expressed his unconquerable objections to it as a new system of centralisation. He contended that the country had the strongest repugnance to any merely secular system of education—that the National Society and the British and Foreign School Society were hostile to it. The bill was, in fact, an assault upon civil and religious liberty. The hon. member moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

Lord ARUNDEL and SURREY seconded the amendment. He felt bound, as a Roman Catholic, to avow unequivocally his utter abhorrence of every system of education in which religion was not to be the first consideration. He pointed to the demoralisation of France, which had been caused by such a system of irrel-

igious education as that proposed for Great Britain. The noble Lord referred to a number of books printed in America and published in this country, from which he quoted several passages, to show how insidiously infidelity was taught, and in what manner the Gospel could be perverted, and the Saviour of the world be held up to view as a mere man. He concluded by declaring his firm persuasion that the passing of the bill would be the commencement of a struggle between religion and infidelity, between God and the Devil, between Heaven and Hell.

Mr. ROEBUCK supported the bill, and maintained that national education is not a question of religion, but of police. He charged its opposers with bigotry and with a desire to keep up priestcraft, and insisted that it was the duty of the State to give the people a sound secular education.

Lord ASHLEY was decidedly opposed to this, as he should be to every bill which would not make religion the basis of education. The question the House had to decide was, whether they should establish any system of education from which Christianity would be by law excluded, and on the issue of this decision would the future history of religion depend.

Mr. M. MILNES warmly supported the bill, and rebuked its opponents for discussing it in a violent and theological manner.

Lord J. RUSSELL said he should be very glad if he could give his support to any bill brought forward for the promotion of education. In considering the merits of this measure he would endeavour to avoid everything savouring of passion or intemperance, and he would make every fair admission in his power. Notwithstanding some of the allegations made in the course of the debate, he believed that there was in this country a lamentable want of education for the poorer classes, and he considered that it was a worthy object for Parliament to take steps to provide for that want. An unwarranted inference would be deduced from the speech made by Lord Arundel and Surrey, if the conclusion were drawn from it that, if schools were established in which secular education only should be given, the opinions he quoted from certain authors would become popular in this country, or be generally adopted. But, making these admissions, he (Lord J. Russell) could not help saying that it would be a very grave thing indeed for the House of Commons to declare that schools should be established by act of Parliament, in which the education imparted should be secular only. He owned that, in his opinion, national education on such a basis would be lamentably deficient; and he did not think that Parliament could, without an absolute necessity, adopt any system of instruction which left out of consideration the immortal part of man. The adoption of such a principle would truly be a grievous falling off in the Parliament of Great Britain. The noble Lord proceeded to show that the bill was most despotic in its principle, and that secular education, and secular education alone, could be given under it. That principle being repugnant to the feelings and opinions of the people of this country, he was constrained to give his decided opposition to the bill, and to vote for the amendment. It was his wish, above all things—a wish that had been expressed by a Sovereign of these realms—that, if we enabled the people to read, we should enable them to read the Bible at an early age, and that the Holy Scriptures should not be reserved for them merely as a present, whereby its importance might be diminished in their eyes, and the respect due to it might be impaired.

Mr. HUME charged the First Minister with having changed his opinions, and with making a speech at variance with all his former declarations and conduct. The hon. Member supported the bill.

The Marquis of BLANDFORD condemned the bill.

On the motion of Mr. ANSTET, the debate was adjourned to the 1st of May.

Lord EMLYN moved the second reading of the Highways (South Wales) Bill.

Mr. CORNEWALL LEWIS made no objection, and the bill was read a second time.

Sir J. DUCKWORTH obtained leave to bring in a Bill to amend the laws relating to Weights and Measures.

Mr. T. HODGES obtained leave to bring in a Bill for repealing so much of an act of the fifth and sixth years of his late Majesty King William IV., as relates to the revision of the Burgess Lists in corporate boroughs in England and Wales, and for making more effectual provision for that purpose.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.
PIRATES HEAD-MONEY.
The Marquis of LANSDOWN moved the second reading of the Pirates Head-Money Repeal Bill.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH condemned the proceedings in Borneo, and warned the Government against all projects for colonising in that country.

The Earl of ELLESMERE and Earl GREY defended the conduct of Sir James Brooke.

The bill was then read a second time.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.
LARCENY SUMMARY JURISDICTION BILL.
Sir J. PARINGTON moved the committee of the Larceny Summary Jurisdiction Bill.

Mr. McCULLAGH objected to the bill altogether; and moved, as an amendment, that the bill be committed that day six months.

Sir G. GREY supported the motion to go into committee.

After a short discussion, the House divided—For going into committee, 133; against it, 76: majority, 57.

The House went into committee on the bill, when Mr. LAW moved an amendment, the effect of which was to divide the bill into two parts, separating that portion by which it was proposed to give summary jurisdiction to magistrates in cases of petty larceny by persons at and under sixteen years of age, from the portion by which it was proposed to give a summary jurisdiction to magistrates in cases of adults.

The committee having divided, there were—For Mr. Law's amendment, 102; against it, 50: majority, 52.

The bill was, consequently divided into two parts, and that referring to adults was expunged.

On the clause for extending the provision of the Juvenile Offenders Act to persons up to sixteen years of age, Mr. LAW moved that the Chairman report progress.

On a division, there were—For reporting progress, 61; against it, 70: majority, 9.

Mr. ROEBUCK objected to the extension of the power of summary jurisdiction by magistrates, and opposed the clause.

Sir GEORGE GREY supported the clause, and the committee divided—For the extension to 16 years, 84; against it, 78: majority, 6.

On the clause giving the power of inflicting punishment on offenders summarily convicted up to 16 years of age,

Sir GEORGE STRICKLAND moved a proviso declaring that the magistrates should not have the power to order the infliction of the punishment of whipping on any offender under this bill.

On a division, there were—For the proviso, 170; against it, 89: majority for the proviso, 81.

The bill, as amended, was reported to the House.

The Tenants at Rack Rent Relief Bill passed through committee, on the motion of Mr. SOTHERON.

MARRIAGES BILL.
Mr. J. S. WORTLEY moved the committee of the Marriages Bill.

Sir F. THESIGER objected to go on with a bill of such immense importance at an hour (near midnight) when it was impossible to give it due consideration. He therefore moved the adjournment of the debate.

Sir GEORGE GREY suggested that the bill should be allowed to go into committee *pro forma*, but

Sir R. INGLIS insisted on a division.

The House divided—For going into committee, 89; against it, 152: majority, 63.

Captain BOLDORE moved the adjournment of the House, and a division took place—For the adjournment, 52; against it, 147: majority against adjournment, 95.

Mr. FORBES moved the adjournment of the debate, and the House again divided—For the adjournment, 48; against it, 133: majority, 85.

Further opposition having been threatened, Mr. J. S. WORTLEY yielded, and agreed to the adjournment of the debate.—Adjourned at one o'clock.

PARLIAMENTARY PORTRAITS.

WILLIAM KEOGH, ESQ., M.P. FOR ATHLONE.

THE subject of our memoir is the eldest son of Wm. Keogh, Clerk of the Crown for the county and city of Kilkenny, by the only daughter of the late Austen French, Esq., of Galway. The family is one of the most ancient in the county Roscommon, and has for several generations held property in the immediate neighbourhood of Athlone, where Mr. Keogh was also known as one of the most distinguished members of the Western Circuit. He was born at Galway, in 1817; was educated at the school of the Rev. Thomas Huddard, the largest in Dublin at that time, and the most celebrated for the scholarship of its pupils. He entered Trinity College, Dublin, in October, 1832, being then but fourteen years of age; and obtained, after a severe examination in classics, the fourth place out of 175 candidates, being the largest entrance ever known at the University. The next day he was awarded the Hebrew prize, and, throughout his whole college career, was one of the most distinguished students of his class.

At his first examinations, in January, 1833, he took a high position in classics; but, being dissatisfied with his answering in science, he resolved to master all difficulties in that portion of his course, and, at the following April and July examinations, he obtained the science premiums, and in October, the certificate, being the highest science honour of the year, and for which five honour men of the same class were his competitors. During the subsequent years of his course he not only maintained his early character as a classical scholar, but continued to obtain first-class science honours. He was, also, a successful competitor for the Vice-Chancellor's prize for the best essay in English; and, as a member of the College Historical Society, then, as of old, distinguished as a school of oratory, and for the spirit of its debates and excellence of its speakers, he carried off the medals both for debate and English composition. His contemporaries in the society were—amongst others who have since obtained more or less of professional or political distinction—Isaac Butt, Q.C.; Wm. Torrens M.C., M.P. for Dundalk; the late Thomas M'Nevin, author of the "Life and Speeches of Shiel"; the "State Trials in Ireland," the "History of the Irish Volunteers," and many other works; and the late Thomas Davis, whom men of all ranks loved to call their friend, the originator of the Young Ireland party (who caught his fervour, but let his sense die with him)—founder, and for a long time principal writer of the *Nation* newspaper, and author of many songs and ballads after the manner of Beranger, and having no less force and exciting scarce less spirit than his.

In 1838, Mr. Keogh entered Lincoln's Inn as a student for the Irish bar, to which he was called in 1840, being then just of age. In the same year he published the "Practice of the Court of Chancery," and which continues to be the text book of the court. He joined the Western Circuit, and at the bar, as in college, soon distinguished himself, so much so, that during the last four years, although but a stuff-gown, he has had by far the most leading business on the Circuit, both on the civil and Crown sides: until the period of his entering Parliament, he had also an extensive practice both in the Rolls Court and Court of Chancery. He married, in 1841, Kate, eldest daughter of the late Thos. Roney, an eminent surgeon; and, at the general election in 1847, came forward as a candidate for Athlone; and, after a severe contest, was returned.

He first spoke in Parliament upon the exclusion of Roman Catholics from the jury struck for the first trials of Smith O'Brien and others for sedition, dwelling upon the practice as in itself unconstitutional, unjust, and calculated to perpetuate and increase the religious and party animosities of Ireland. It was felt that he understood the subject; he was listened to with marked attention, and established for himself the certainty of being well heard on all occasions when, with knowledge of the matter in hand, he might choose to take part in the debate. He has since gained additional credit by sharp and telling replies made on the spur of the moment, to Mr. Roebuck's attacks on Irish members, and especially to Mr. John Stuart (Chancellor, in expectancy), on law reform, and which the *Times*, in a leading article commented upon, as a speech conferring infinite credit upon the learned member. Except the Hon. George Smythe, he is the only supporter of Sir Robert Peel who has voted with Mr. Hume for extension of the franchise.

Mr. Keogh is a Free-Trader, voted with the Government for the Repeal of the Navigation Laws, and against Mr. Disraeli's motion. He is in favour of retrenchment and reduction of taxation; has spoken in support of the Irish Encumbered Estates Bill and Sir John Romilly's Chancery Reforms; and is in favour of such a system of tenant right both for Ireland and England as shall ensure the tenant compensation for improvements without interfering with the just proprietary rights of the landlord.

During the past week, in an able reply to Sir John Hobhouse, he supported Mr. Sadler's motion upon the subject of the omission, during a long period, of members of the Irish bar from all appointments to the Indian bench, and again afforded evidence that he has fully established for himself the good hearing of the House.

Our Portrait is from a Photograph by Kilburn, of Regent-street.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.						
SUNDAY, April 21.—Third Sunday after Easter.	MONDAY, 22.—Duke of Sussex died, aged 70, 1843.	TUESDAY, 23.—St. George.	WEDNESDAY, 24.—Oliver Cromwell born, 1599.	THURSDAY, 25.—St. Mark. Princess Alice born, 1843.	FRIDAY, 26.—Sun rises 4h. 43m., sets 7h. 14m.	SATURDAY, 27.—Sir William Jones died, 1794.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 27, 1850.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
9 15	9 55	10 40	11 20	11 50	Tide	0 20
0 45	1 10	1 35	1 55	2 10	2 35	2 50

ARCTIC REGIONS, PANORAMA ROYAL, LEICESTER-SQUARE, JUST OPENED, and showing the VIEWS as seen in SUMMER and WINTER, from Drawings taken by Lieutenant Browne, R.N., of her Majesty's ship "Enterprise," during the late Expedition under Sir James Ross in search of Sir John Franklin, which drawings were presented to Mr. Burford by the Admiralty; comprising also Portraits of her Majesty's Ships "Enterprise" and "Investigator," and the Sublime Effects of an Aurora Borealis. The Views of Cashmere and Pompeii are also Now Open, but the former will shortly be closed.—Admission 1s. each View, or 2s. 6d. to the three. Schools, half-price.

A NEW PANORAMIC MOVEMENT, accompanied with MUSIC by Dr. Wallis, has been adopted at the PICTORIAL EXHIBITION, 309, Regent-street (adjoining the Royal Polytechnic Institution), of VIEWS of the BRITANNIA TUBULAR BRIDGE, SNOWDON, on a Grand Scale, &c. &c. Painted by J. W. ALLEN, Esq.—Admission, 1s. Visitors of the Royal Polytechnic Institution, Schools, and Children, Half-price. Hours of Exhibition: Three, Quarter-past Four, Half-past Seven, and Nine o'clock.

LOVE'S POLYPHONIC ENTERTAINMENTS.—VENTRILOQUISM EXTRAORDINARY.—These celebrated Entertainments will be delivered at the ROSEMARY BRANCH HOTEL, PECKHAM, on MONDAY, APRIL 22; at the Horse Tavern, Kennington, on Tuesday, April 23; at Leicester, on Monday, April 29; at the Athenaeum, Sheffield, on Tuesday, April 30; at the Assembly-Rooms, Salisbury, on Monday, May 6; at the Town-Hall, Andover, on Tuesday, May 7; at the Literary and Scientific Institution, Guildford, on Wednesday, May 8; at the Institution, Gravesend, on Monday, May 13; and at the Town-Hall, Maldenhead, on Wednesday, May 15. Begin at Eight. Books, containing programmes, &c., to be had at the doors, price 6d.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—LECTURES
on MUSIC, by Sir HENRY R. BISHOP, resumed, with an increased number of Vocalists for the Illustrations, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at Eight, and on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at Three o'clock. Dr. Bachoffner's SECOND LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION, with Optical Experiments, daily at Two, and on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings, at a quarter-past Nine. LECTURE by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., on the CHEMISTRY of HYDROGEN, with special reference to its application for conveying by Balloons Pyrotechnic and other signals to Sir John Franklin, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at Three, and on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings, at Eight. DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating the ARCTIC REGIONS and CRYLOI; also Views of London in the sixteenth Century, and as it now is. DIVER and DIVING-BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.—Analysis and Chemical Experiments conducted in the Laboratory, under the direction of J. H. PEPPER, Esq.

TRAFALGAR.—A Large and Interesting MODEL of the
BATTLE of TRAFALGAR is now exhibiting at 168, NEW BOND-STREET, next to the Clarendon Hotel. This great work of art is modelled to a scale of 20 feet to an inch, thereby rendering it perfectly distinct. It also possesses this great advantage over all paintings on the same subject, that visitors can walk round and notice the track of each ship as she was brought into action, and produce, at the same time, a series of beautiful pictorial effects. Open from 10 in the Morning till 10 in the Evening. Admission, 1s.—Saturdays 2s. 6d. Children, half-price.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER, Brighton.—The *Athenienne*, 61 guns, was wrecked off Sardinia, Oct. 20, 1806; 317 souls perished. "Sewage" has of late been used for "sewerage."

C W, Leeds.—Railways have not yet been made in Australia.

H S M, Birmingham.—The "Guide to the stage" is published by Onwhyn, Catherine-street, Strand.

NEMO, Totnes.—Her Majesty's Theatre usually opens in February or March, and closes in August.

RHS FANCIER, Bradford.—See Bechstein on Cage Birds.

A SUBSCRIBER, City.—The Memoirs of Shelley may inform you.

A OLD SUBSCRIBER had better consult a solicitor as to the property.

A CORRESPONDENT—Matches for instantaneous light: chlorate of potash, 10 parts; sugar, 3; sulphur, 3; wheat flour, 1; vermillion, 1; spirit to mix.

A SUBSCRIBER—See a reply as to "Mean Time," in the Supplement given with the present Number.

X Z Z, Ashton.—The compulsion would be absurd.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER should apply to the magazine in question. Madrid was visited by cholera in 1833.

SPLICATO, Aberdeen.—Apply at 175, Fleet-street.

C H, Russell-square.—Dr Forbes has written a tract against Mesmerism, published by Churchill.

T W W, Louth.—There is a collection of Specimens of recent British Manufactures now exhibiting at the house of the Society of Arts, in the Adelphi, already noticed in our Journal.

E F B.—Apply to Messrs Beard, photographers, King Will am-street, City.

G.—See Mr Christopher's new work on Natal. There have been published several Guides to California.

POLYMNIA.—Mlle Jenny Lind's most popular character is *Amina*, in "Le Soumbula."

AN ORIGINAL SUBSCRIBER, Throgmorton-street.—The Botanic Gardens at Kew are open every day, Sunday excepted.

A B, Norwich, is thanked; but we have not room for the subject at present.

AN EAST KENT FARMER.—The proposition will, doubtless, be advertised.

J K L, Edale.—See Colonel Hawker's Pamphlet on the Game-Laws.

IGNORAMUS, Dublin.—The Three per Cent. Consolidated Annuities are a considerable portion of the public debt of this kingdom; the familiar term being Consols.

R U S may remove veridigms from coins by a solution of ammonia.

A CONSTANT READER should apply respecting the investment at the Government Annuity Office, Old Jewry.

A LIVERPOOL READER.—See Mr Kenny Meadows's "Illustrations of Shakespeare."

CLERICUS is recommended to apply to a music publisher.

X C L R, Jersey.—We cannot determine until we have seen the Sketches.

W J, Isle of Wight.—We cannot decide the point of Churchwarden law.

NEMO.—The Lieutenancy of her Majesty's Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms is purchasable for about £700. The Gentlemen-at-Arms obtain their places for about £100.

A SUBSCRIBER.—The half-pay of a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy is 5s a day, increased to 6s and 7s by seniority. The half-pay of a Lieutenant in the Cavalry is 4s 8d a day; of a Lieutenant in the Infantry, 4s.

TRIT.—The crest of Magee is a lion sejant collared.

A CONSTANT READER.—A Peer's younger son is not entitled to a Coronet.

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.—The present Lord Talbot de Malahide is brother of the deceased Peer.

S B S.—The arms of Blower are "Or on a chevron between three balls vert, a crescent, gold. Crest: Out of a mural coronet or, a demi-eagle displayed vert, wounded in the breast with an arrow gold feathered arg."

SIOMA.—The arms of Seys of Monmouthshire are "Sa. a chev. between three spear-heads arg. their points embued. Crest: A demi lion rampant gu."

INCREDULOUS.—The exact state and eventual succession of the Earldom of Newburgh involve too much uncertainty to admit of their being discussed here.

W S.—We do not know where to refer our correspondent for the pedigree and arms of Colonel Lodowick Peterson.

SUBSCRIBER.—There are no arms to the name of Blotchers, of Yorkshire.

PRICONTATOR.—"Erin, a cross pattee sa." are the arms of Mose; "Arg. a lion ramp. az between three scallions gu." the arms of James, of Cornwall; and "On a cross arg. in the first quarter a lozenge of the second" for Lee, of Surrey.

A FAVENHAM SUBSCRIBER.—Immediately before the closing, December, 1844, the price marked 10½.

S E I is liable to the tax.

CIVIS, Kingston.—We cannot advise.

NOVENTUM.—Received.

J L B, Pontefract.—We cannot recommend.

T M.—The Guarantee Society.

J F.—We cannot inform you.

FRANCISCO, Penrith.—We cannot advise you.

L A M, Great Yarmouth.—We have not room.

W W.—The publication has been discontinued.

R R R R.—We are not in the secret.

* * * For replies to several Correspondents, see the Gratis Supplement, page 275, delivered with the present Number.

BOOKS, &c. RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.

Bailey's United Service Record.—Money versus Life.—Pleasant Pastime.—My Old Pupils.—Webster's Royal Red Book.—Visit to Sherwood Forest.—The War in Hungary.

With each Number of the
ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,
 For this day, April 20, 1850, is delivered
A SUPPLEMENT GRATIS!
THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1850.

If the Government carry no other bill during the present Session than the one just introduced by Sir George Grey, for the abolition of the practice of Intramural Interment in the metropolis, its labours will not be wholly unproductive of good. The bill in question—which was introduced with the approbation of all parties, promising its speedy transformation into a law of the land, is founded upon the report of the Board of Health, which was published several weeks ago, and commented upon at the time in this Journal. The metropolitan parishes affected by the provisions of the bill are enumerated in a schedule appended to it, and constitute what is popularly known as the Registrar-General's London district, with the exception of some few outlying, and as they may be termed rural parishes, which it has not been thought necessary to include. We have already given an abstract of the principal provisions of the bill. There can be no doubt, from the unanimity displayed upon the subject, both in and out of Parliament, that it will be carried without any essential modifications; and that intramural interments, so long the disgrace of our age and the peril of the public health, will cease in the metropolis. It will now become the interest, as well as the duty of other large towns, which suffer from the same evil, to apply to Parliament for powers to remedy it in a similar manner.

THE Ultra-Democrats and Socialists of Paris have agreed to support the candidature of M. Eugène Sue, the well-known writer of fiction, for the representation of Paris. M. Emile Girardin, who, after trying all parties, and being rejected by all, has been finally coquetting with the Social Republicans, has not been deemed trustworthy enough for the privilege of representing them, and the struggle will lie between M. Sue and some Moderate candidate not yet named. The Government, as if resolved to force the extreme party into violence, has absolutely forbidden public meetings to be held to debate upon the merits of the various candidates; and, in this violation of the Constitution, it has been supported by the Legislative Assembly. This is another and very striking proof of the truth of the allegations we made last week, that Liberty, in the name of which the Revolution was accomplished, has been ignominiously expelled from the soil of France, and that the present Government is neither more nor less than an absolute tyranny of brute force, without the slightest regard to the law or constitution from which it derives its only right to existence. The principal feature of the Constitution, of 1848 was the right of public meeting. That right was partially annulled in 1849, after the failure of the wicked project of M. Ledru-Rollin and his party to establish the Red Republic; but an exception even in those days of peril and mistrust was expressly made in favour of meetings for the purposes of election to the Legislative Assembly. Such meetings were allowed to take place during the period comprised between the promulgation of the decree convoking the electors and the day of election itself—a period limited to forty days. The present Government has at length annulled this last remnant of the right of public meeting; and the Prefect of Police has officially announced that no public meetings, upon any subject whatsoever, will be allowed. Several meetings have accordingly been closed by the police; and although the officers did not arrive in time to prevent the assemblage of delegates—which ultimately fixed upon M. Eugène Sue as the Socialist candidate—they arrived soon afterwards, and formally declared the meeting to be a breach of the public peace, and decreed that the hall should be closed. If the Socialists and Red Republicans are certain of carrying their candidate, they will probably content themselves with peaceably protesting against this violation of the Constitution, in which case they will ultimately array on their side a large portion of Moderate men who now hold aloof. The situation is an exciting one for all parties; but the Government is so clearly in the wrong, that, unless the army be more staunchly attached to the existing state of things than is generally supposed, nothing but its utter discomfiture can be the result. What France is driving to, unless it be to new convulsions, no one can predict.

COURT AND HAUT TON.

THE COURT AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

The incidents of Court life during the past week have been comparatively few. Her Majesty continues, we rejoice to learn, in excellent health and appeared in public at the Opera on Tuesday last.

On Friday last, the Queen and the Prince, with the younger members of the Royal Family, inspected the presents sent to her Majesty by the Emperor of Morocco, consisting of nine barbs, with the dress saddles of the country and horse furniture complete. These presents were delivered to the Queen and Prince Albert by Hadj Abdallah Lamarty, Kaid Abdelkrim, and Hassan Bocheeta. His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, Master of the Horse, and the gentlemen of the Royal household in waiting, attended on the occasion.

On Saturday morning three of the horses were inspected in the Riding School, and Hadj Abdallah Lamarty and Kaid Abdelkrim, together with a groom (Boofmar), exhibited feats of horsemanship, with which the Queen and Prince, and the younger members of the Royal Family, were much gratified. Hadj Abdallah Lamarty, Kaid Abdelkrim, and Hassan Bocheeta, with the attendant (Boofmar), are under the charge of the officers of the Master of the Horse, by whom they are to be shown the different objects of interest in the metropolis. The Queen and the Prince, with Prince Alfred and the Princess Helena, took a drive in a carriage and four on Saturday afternoon. The Duke and Duchess of Norfolk and Lord and Lady John Russell dined with her Majesty in the evening.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended divine service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Rev. Gerald Wellesley officiated. The Royal Family took their usual exercise during the day in the garden of Buckingham Palace.

On Monday the Queen and the Prince again took a drive in an open carriage and four. The equerries in waiting, Lord Charles Fitzroy and Lieut.-Colonel Francis Hugh Seymour, attended on horseback. During the afternoon La Comtesse Rosati attended at Buckingham Palace, for the purpose of singing to her Queen.

On Tuesday, the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Alice, took a drive, attended by the Honourable Caroline Dawson, in an open carriage and four. The Prince Consort rode out on horseback during the morning, attended by Lieut.-Col. F. H. Seymour. The Royal children also took a carriage airing during the day. In the evening the Queen and Prince Albert honoured her Majesty's Theatre with their presence. The royal suite consisted of the Viscountess Caning, the Hon. Amelia Murray, the Hon. Caroline Dawson, the Earl of Listowel, Lord Charles Fitzroy, and Lieut.-Col. F. H. Seymour.

On Wednesday, the Queen and the Prince, with the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Alice, again took a drive in a carriage and four. The Prince Consort also rode out on horseback during the day. In the evening the Duchess of Kent dined with her Majesty. The Belgian Minister and Madame Van de Weyer had the honour of joining the royal party.

On Thursday the Queen and the Prince took a drive in an open carriage and four. Lord Charles Fitzroy and Lieut.-Colonel F. H. Seymour, the Equerries in waiting, attended on horseback. The Duchess of Kent visited her Majesty during the day, and in the evening dined with the Queen and the Prince Consort. The band of the Coldstream Guards, and her Majesty's private band, attended during the evening.

THE MILITARY KNIGHTS OF WINDSOR.—A vacancy has occurred in this foundation by the almost sudden death of Lieutenant John Allen, one of the military knights of Windsor, who died on Monday last, after two hours' illness. This veteran officer entered the army as Ensign in the 1st Royals, and at e-wards served in the 84th Foot in the Peninsular, under the Duke of Wellington.

POSTSCRIPT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

SMOKE PROHIBITION BILL.

On the motion of Lord REDDESDALE this bill was read a second time.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS CONTRIBUTION BILL.

On the motion of the Marquis of LANSDOWNE, this bill was read a second time. A long conversation on the subject of the Irish Poor-law was originated by Lord WESTMEATH, in presenting a petition complaining of its operation; at the close of which their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

CHARTIST LAND SCHEME.

Sir B. HALL gave notice that on the 30th inst. he should ask the hon. member for Nottingham when he intended to bring in a bill to wind up the affairs of the National Land Company?

Mr. O'CONNOR said he would answer the question at once. He had had a consultation with a Mr. Walmsley, and he found that it would be necessary to insert advertisements three times in the provincial newspapers published in the counties where the estates were situated, before he could introduce a private bill into the House. A question as to the right of the registrar of joint-stock companies to register the National Land Company would shortly be decided by the Queen's Bench; and if the Judges were of opinion that it ought to have been registered, he would then bring in a bill to wind up the affairs of the company under the new Winding-up Act. It was his intention, in case the decision should be an adverse one, to petition the House to enable him to bring in a private bill on the subject.

COMMITTEE ON OFFICIAL SALARIES.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL gave notice that on Monday next he should move that the following hon. members be appointed as the Select Committee:—Lord John Russell, Mr. Wilson Patten, Mr. Bright, Sir John Yarde Buller, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Becket, Mr. Napier, Mr. Home Drummond, Mr. William Evans, Sir William Molesworth, Mr. Henley, Mr. Ellice, Mr. Ricardo, Mr. Walter, and Mr. Deedes.

AUSTRALIAN COLONIES GOVERNMENT BILL.

The House then went into committee on this bill. Clauses 3, 4, and 5 were agreed to without discussion. On clause 6 being proposed,

Sir WILLIAM MOLESWORTH, with a view to having two chambers instead of one, moved as an amendment, in line 26, to omit all the words after the word "That," down to the word "and," in line 39, for the purpose of inserting these words, "there shall be established in the colonies of Van Diemen's Land and South Australia respectively a Legislative Council and a House of Assembly." If this amendment were agreed to, he should proceed to propose other amendments by which these two chambers would be made elective.

After considerable discussion—in the course of which Lord J. Russell and Mr. HAWES, on the part of the Government, opposed the amendment—the Committee divided, rejecting the amendment by a majority of 218 to 150.

Mr. ANSTY then moved as an amendment, that the nominees of the Crown should not sit in the same chamber as the elected members; and this amendment was likewise rejected, by a majority of 150 to 27.

The clause was then agreed to.—Adjourned at one o'clock.

EXPLOSION AND FIRE.—Shortly after nine o'clock yesterday (Friday) morning, an explosion of an oil boiler took place on the premises of Mr. J. Hucks, pine oil and grease manufacturer, York Wharf, Princes-street, about a quarter of a mile westward of Lambeth Palace, and abutting on the Surrey shore of the Thames. Flames issued immediately from every part of the manufactory, which were fed by the oil and grease that escaped from the exploded vessel. The premises were closely surrounded by small dwellings, densely inhabited by very poor people, several of whom, in endeavouring to rescue their furniture, were scorched, though not much injured, except a man who was carrying his infant in his arms, both of whom were considerably burnt about the head and neck. The fire raged nearly two hours, when it had exhausted itself, as it was useless for the firemen to throw water upon the burning pile, from the nature of the element with which the flames were fed: they therefore confined their attention to endeavouring to save the contiguous buildings from destruction, in which they succeeded, although the grease manufactory was entirely destroyed. Mr. Hucks was uninsured, as no fire office would undertake the risk of an insurance, notwithstanding that the proprietor had offered a large premium. His loss is therefore considerable.

TERMINATION OF THE STRIKE AT ABERDARE.—The whole of the colliers in the Aberdare Valley—or, rather, as many of them as the masters would take into employment—have signed the agreement and returned to work.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

FRANCE.

The accounts from Paris last (Friday) night refer principally to the fuller details which have been published relative to the catastrophe at Angers. It appears that the chains of the suspension-bridge at first gave way on one side only, when the soldiers on the bridge, feeling the movement of the floor, naturally rushed to the other side, when the chains there also gave way, and the whole floor of the bridge fell. From one bank to the other the river was completely blocked up with the soldiers struggling to reach the shore. If the weather had been calm, the greater number of them would, in all probability, have been saved. The wind, however, blew a perfect hurricane, and the waves were very rough. Masses of men clung to each other, the waves every moment washing away some of them until only one remained. Beams of wood, planks, and every article that could be laid hold of were launched, to enable the men to keep afloat until further assistance could arrive. Of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd companies, there only remain 14, 16, and 19 men respectively. The number deficient amounts to 219, to which must be added 33 dead, and 30 wounded in the hospital, making the total loss to the battalion 282. Some of the unfortunate men had met their deaths previous to reaching the water, the bayonets affixed to their guns having pierced them through while in the act of falling. So great was the pressure, that many of the barrels of the guns were bent double. Several of those who were rescued from their perilous situation had met with severe wounds from coming in contact with their field arms, or from fragments of the bridge falling upon them. The President of the Republic left Paris on Thursday to visit the spot where the melancholy accident had occurred, in order to obtain the best information regarding its cause, and to sympathise and relieve those who should need his assistance.

Some important changes have been made by the President of the Republic in superior military commands. General Baraguay d'Hilliers, whose appointment in Rome was only a temporary one, returns to France, and is to be replaced by General Gêmeau, who now commands at Lyons. Gen. Castellan, one of the most energetic officers in the service, replaces General Gêmeau at Lyons, and General d'Arbuthnot takes the command at Bordeaux.

The Electoral Union have withdrawn M. Foy from the contest for Paris, and chosen M. Leclerc as their candidate.

GERMAN STATES.

The Prussian party in the Parliament at Erfurt have sustained another defeat. A telegraphic dispatch of the 17th, published in the *Kölnen-Zeitung*, mentions that the bill containing the charter of the constitution had been brought forward in the Upper Chamber on that day, and that Patow's resolution, which had passed the Lower House, had been agreed to, by 72 against 29, in the Upper House also.

COUNTRY NEWS.

NEW MILITARY PRISON AT GOSPORT.—The new military prison at Forton, Gosport, is now completed, and in about a fortnight the establishment now occupying Southsea Castle will be moved over. It consists of a governor (Captain J. Curtin, late 40th Regiment), a chaplain (the Rev. Mr. Denis), a surgeon (Mr. Dowse), a schoolmaster (not yet named), with about seventeen or eighteen warders. The new prison will contain about 150 prisoners, each with a separate cell. The cells are capacious, airy, and well-lighted by a small corrugated glass window, placed high up. The glass admits light freely, but is impervious to sight, and a small pane can be opened by the prisoner to admit air, if he requires it. The cells, and, indeed, the whole building, are kept perfectly warm by hot-air pipes that run under the floorings. Each cell is provided with a bell-pull, which strikes a gong; and the act of pulling the bell throws out an indicator that points to the warder the cell from which the bell has been rung. The building is three stories high; the cell doors face each other in three tiers, with iron verandahs running along. The centre or aisle between the doors is lighted from the top by a glass roofing. The lower tier of cells contain the solitary and dark prisons for punishment; but these are also warmed by hot-air pipes, and are well ventilated. Four baths for the use of the prisoners also occupy the basement, and in each there are places for washing, shaving, and a number of water-closets. The food is hoisted up from the furnace-room through a trap-door in the floor, and a railway then conveys it to the door of each cell. At the back of the prison is a capacious chapel, and underneath the chapel room is a large school-room. The prisoners are generally in three classes, and within the walls are three class-yards. The prison has been erected at an expense of £30,000.

On Tuesday, the annual general meeting of the Windsor and Eton Auxiliary Bible Society took place at the Town Hall, Windsor; Charles Pilcher, Esq., took the chair, in the place of the Rev. Lord Wriothesley Russell, Canon of Windsor, who was unavoidably absent. The report was read by the Rev. J. B. M'Crea, secretary to the society, and adopted. The Rev. J. G. Coakesby, in a very eloquent address, condemned those principles which unfortunately have so recently occasioned such discord in the religious world. The Parent Bible Society was represented by the Rev. J. Frost, who entered into a lucid description of the proceedings of that society, both at home and abroad, mentioning that the funds are in a flourishing condition, and that thirty-seven millions of Bibles had been distributed, out of which only one million had been distributed abroad. The Rev. J. Gore also made an able speech on behalf of the society. Several other rev. gentlemen addressed the meeting, and a liberal subscription was afterwards entered into.

POCKET-PICKING NEAR THE DOORS OF A CHURCH.—On Sunday evening last, a gentleman, on coming out of Christ Church, Salford, had his pocket picked of a small black roan pocket-book, containing a promissory note for a £1000, a £25 dividend warrant, and various memoranda.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The past week has been almost exclusively devoted to the Craven—the first of the trio of Spring meetings at Newmarket: the sport was averagely good, nothing wonderful. In the ensuing week we shall have a couple of days' racing at Malton, and the same number on Lansdown (Bath); a third, however, has been tacked on, for steeple-chasing solely: the country is well adapted to sport of this description, requiring horses that can really "jump" as well as race, which was not the case at the recent steeple-chase meeting, so called, at Epsom. The Bath people do their best to "command success;" we hope they will not be disappointed. In our next we shall have to announce the opening of the cricketing and aquatic campaigns. It is so far fortunate they have not already commenced, inasmuch as the elements have not favoured out-of-door sports.

LATEST BETTING AT NEWMARKET.

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS STAKES.		
3 to 1 agst Bee-hunter	6 to 4 agst Pilsford	3 to 1 agst Hardinge
5 to 1 agst Bollingbroke	15 to 1 agst Voltigeur	30 to 1 agst Penang
7 to 1 — Clicheur	18 to 1 — The Italian	33 to 1 — Nutshell
8 to 1 — Gillie Callum	18 to 1 — Mildew	40 to 1 — Barney
8 to 1 — Mavora	30 to 1 — Pilsford	50 to 1 — Hardinge
15 to 1 — The Nigger	25 to 1 — Knight of Avenel	50 to 1 — Deicon
	66 to 1 agst Cariboo	

NEWMARKET CRAVEN MEETING.—MONDAY.

SWEETSTAKES of 50 sovs. each, for colts.—Duke of Richmond's Officious (Flatman), 1. Mr. Batson's Abdullah (Sly), 2.
 HANDICAP SWEETSTAKES of 25 sovs. each.—Colonel Peel's Ione (Chapple), 1. Lord Clifden's Sagacity (Pearl), 2.
 HANDICAP of 20 sovs. each.—Mr. Gurney's b c by St. Francis (W. Harlock), 1. Mr. Payne's Saucy Dick (Flatman), 2.
 SWEETSTAKES of 100 sovs. each.—Mr. Combe's Necklace (W. Cotton), 1. Sir J. Hawley's Hippia (Templeman), 2.
 SWEETSTAKES of 100 sovs. each.—Col. Peel's Hardinge (Flatman), 1. Mr. Combe's Tomboy (R. Cotton), 2.
 SWEETSTAKES of 50 sovs. each.—Lord Exeter's Nutshell walked over.

TUESDAY.

THE TUESDAY'S RIDDLESWORTH of 200 sovs. each.—Colonel Peel's Hardinge (Flatman), 1. Lord Exeter's Nutcracker (Norman), 2.
 SWEETSTAKES of 50 sovs. each.—Sir J. Hawley's Tiff (Templeman), 1. Mr. Combe's Tomboy (R. Cotton), 2.
 SWEETSTAKES of 100 sovs. each.—Lord Exeter's Nutcracker (Norman), 1. Lord Exeter's Ghio (Flatman), 2.
 SWEETSTAKES of 10 sovs. each.—Lord Exeter's Bishop of Romford's Cob (Norman), 1. Sir J. Gerard's Jest (Bartholomew), 2.
 SWEETSTAKES of 50 sovs. each.—Mr. Gratwicke's The Nigger (Flatman), 1. Mr. Ford's Satire (Bartholomew), 2.
 SWEETSTAKES of 50 sovs. each.—Lord Airlie's Clincher (F. Butler), 1. Duke of Richmond's Compass (Flatman), 2.
 NEWMARKET HANDICAP of 25 sovs. each.—Mr. Gratwicke's Cheerful (Collison), 1. Mr. Stevens's Knight of Gwynne (T. Smith), 2.

WEDNESDAY.

SWEETSTAKES of 50 sovs. each.—Major Martyn's Fernando (W. Abdale), 1. Duke of Rutland's Ondine (W. Boyce), 2.
 SUBSCRIPTION PLATE of £50.—Mr. Rolt's Collingwood (Flatman), 1. Lord Clifden's Honeycomb (Pearl), 2.
 THE COLUMB STAKES of 50 sovs. each.—Colonel Peel's Longinus (Flatman), 1. Mr. Greville's Cariboo (A. Day), 2.

THURSDAY.

SWEETSTAKES of 50 sovs. each.—Hartum Scutum, 1. Warner, 2.
 PLATE of 50 sovs.—Beauclerc, 1. Sobraon, 2.
 SWEETSTAKES of 50 sovs. each.—Officious, 1. Falcon, 1.

FRIDAY.

HANDICAP.—Telegraph, 1. Colt by Mus out of Virago, 2.
 PORT STAKES.—Osterley, 1. Lady Evelyn, 2.
 MATCH, 200, h ft.—Preslaw beat Canada colt.

GRAND METROPOLITAN STEEPLE-CHASE AT EPSOM.

YESTERDAY week the experiment of a Steeple-Chase meeting at Epsom was made with perfect success. Last year, an attempt made to get up such a meeting failed, from the opposition of the resident gentry, who considered a steeple-chase would be a misappropriation of the Downs. The endeavour was this year renewed, the ground being changed from Epsom Downs to Epsom Common; and the stakes were duly filled.

The line commenced on Epsom Common to the right of the Leatherhead-road, about one mile and a half from Epsom, starting from the distance-post beyond the stands, over two flights of hurdles; it then passed over a cut hedge placed on a bank, with rather an awkward ditch on the taking-off side, on to a piece of heavy ploughed land, in the middle of which a red flag was placed, round which it proceeded down the hill, and over another cut fence with a slight drop on to a seed piece. Still descending the hill to a slight fence on to the common again, which had been carefully levelled, and a regular track laid out, it then skirted the lower ground, bearing obliquely towards Newtown Wood, crossing an artificial fence of posts and rails well bushed, with a made drain on landing. It now bore slightly to the right, over another obstruction of a similar character two hundred yards further on, passing in front of Mr. Hutton's wood house, and running parallel with the wood side—this portion of the ground, from the recent rains and holding nature of the soil, being knee-deep and sticky. It then crossed the brook with 15 feet of water, defended on the taking-off side by a made hedge, and proceeded in a direct line towards Clay-hill, turning again to the right in front of Mr. Stone's farm-house, up the hill, leaving Squire Trotter's on the left, and then entered the straight run in on the brow of the hill a quarter of a mile from home, over two flights of hurdles, the finish being roped and staked, forming an oblong of two miles, which had to be passed over twice for the four miles. The ground, from (as we have before stated) the nature of the soil and the effect of the weather, was extremely heavy and distressing to the horses, especially in the lower portion, where it was all but impossible for them to make a trot of it. The fences were light and unimportant.

Barnard's two stands were erected and were filled with company, and the enclosure was thronged.

The assemblage on the ground, *malgré* the frequent showers, and the dreadful muddy state of the ground, was immense. Both sides of the straight run in was lined two and three deep with carriages of every description. Amongst the lions of the day were the four natives of Tangier, who recently arrived in this country in charge of the presents from the Emperor of Morocco to her Majesty.

The proceedings, as set forth on the card, commenced, not at the time fixed, with the Surrey Hunt Steeple-Chase, for which nine came to the post, and, after one of the longest and most severe races, terminated in favour of the Hero by a head only.

Next came the Aristocratic Steeple-Chase, won by Johnny Oaks, in a canter. And then

THE GREAT METROPOLITAN STEEPLE-CHASE of 15 sovs each, 10 ft, and 5 ft declared, with 100 added by the lessee; a winner of 100 sovs clear, after the weights are published, once 7lb, twice 12lb extra; the second to save his stake; the winner to pay 20 sovs towards expenses; four miles; 25 subs, 7 of whom declared.

Mr Stafford's ch m Fugitive by Rust, 10st 8lb	..	..	(H. Bradley)	1
Mr Treadgold's b m Maria Day, aged, 10st	..	..	.. (Frisby)	2
Mr Skipworth's b m Rachel, 6 yrs, 10st	..	..	.. (Taylor)	3
Mr Elmore's British Yeoman, aged, 11st 7lb	..	..	.. (W. Archer)	0
Mr H. Bird's Sir Peter Laurie, aged, 11st 5lb	..	..	.. (Mr Goodman)	0
Mr T. Mason's Proceed, 10st 10lb	..	..	.. (J. Mason)	0
Mr E. Hughes's Miss Collingwood, aged, 10st 2lb	..	..	.. (Tasker)	0
Mr Cartwright's Thurgarton, aged, 10st 7lb (including 7lb extra)	..	..	.. (T. Oliver)	0
Captain Knight's Leo, aged, 9st 10lb	..	..	.. (Boxall)	0
Mr T. C. Dixon's Falcon, aged, 9st 10lb	..	..	.. (Britton)	0
Mr Pettiford's The Last Forrester, aged, 9st 6lb	..	..	.. (Rackley)	0
Mr G. Symond's Ploughboy, 9st 6lb	..	..	.. (C. Boyce)	0
Mr M. Stubbs's Skim, 9st 6lb (carried 9st 9lb)	..	..	.. (Webster)	0
Mr Molony's Molly, 6 yrs, 9st 4lb	..	..	.. (Owner)	0

Betting.—3 to 1 agst British Yeoman, 4 to 1 agst Sir Peter Laurie, 5 to 1 agst Proceed, 7 to 1 agst Maria Day, 10 to 1 agst Thurgarton, 12 to 1 agst Fugitive, and 12 to 1 agst Rachel.

The horses, having taken their preliminary canter, were got to the starting post in capital order, and an excellent start effected. Miss Collingwood being first on her legs, jumped away with the lead over the first flight of hurdles, followed by Rachel second, British Yeoman third, Sir Peter Laurie fourth, and Ploughboy fifth, the rest lying in a cluster, headed by Proceed, two or three lengths in the rear; but soon after jumping the fence into the ploughed land, British Yeoman took up the running, followed by Rachel, Sir Peter Laurie, Miss Collingwood, Maria Day, Skim, and ploughboy, the others forming at this early part of the race an extensive tail, the last of whom was Falcon. With little or no alteration in the order of running the lot progressed to the brook, which the British Yeoman took in advance, Rachel still lying second, then Sir Peter Laurie, Miss Collingwood, Maria Day, and Skim, in the order we have named them, a long interval separating the rear division. In rounding the turn opposite the farm-house, Miss Collingwood gave way to Skim, who became second, the others, on breasting the hill, lying wide of each other, and in which form they ran to the distance, where they gradually closed, and proceeded in close order to the flight of hurdles opposite, which was cleared in succession by the British Yeoman, Skim, Sir Peter Laurie, Maria Day, Miss Collingwood, and Fugitive fifth and sixth, the others being disposed of; and at the brook the second time, nothing apparently had a chance, with the exception of those we have named. On breasting the hill, the British Yeoman and Sir Peter Laurie gave way, beaten, to Maria Day, Rachel, and Fugitive, who went on nearly abreast to the last flight of hurdles, which they jumped together. A fine race home then ensued, which ended in favour of Fugitive by half a length; Maria Day second, Rachel third, the rest nowhere. The Scramble Steeple-Chase of 3 sovs. each, with 25 added, followed, and was cleverly won by three lengths, by Mr. O'Key's Morris Daley.



PRESENTATION OF A MEMORIAL TO DR. TAIT, AT RUGBY SCHOOL.

RETIREMENT OF DR. TAIT FROM RUGBY SCHOOL.

The appointment of the Rev. Dr. Tait to the Deanery of Carlisle, has led to his retirement from the Head-Mastership of Rugby School, of which Thursday week being the last day, the great School was the scene of a very interesting ceremony. At eleven o'clock, immediately before the first calling over on the three-quarters holiday which had been given for the occasion, the Dean of Carlisle and Mrs. Tait took their seats on two chairs in front of the master of the week's desk; the masters, the sixth form, a deputation from the town, and a

large body of old Rugbians, were assembled on either side; the masters' wives and some other ladies occupied the raised benches on the right; and the whole of the body of the School was filled with boys. On a table, immediately in front of the desk, lay a piece of plate, a clock, a pair of candlesticks, and Richmond's portrait of Dr. Tait. The plate consisted of a group in frosted silver, representing Faith supported by Philosophy and History, elaborately executed, and inscribed "Viro admodum Reverendo A. C. Tait, LL.D., D.D., scholar Rugbænsis alumni, 1850."

Mr. Shirley, scholar of Wadham College, Oxford, and son of the late Bishop

Sodor and Man, in presenting the portrait to Mrs. Tait, read the following address in the name of the old Rugbians:—

I have been requested, Mrs. Tait, on behalf of the subscribers, most of whom are old Rugbians, to beg your acceptance of this portrait of our former Head Master, which, we trust, you will consider not less as an acknowledgment of the genuine kindness and courtesy which we have ever experienced at your own hands, than of the high qualities which we have all had occasion to admire in Dr. Tait. It is our privilege, indeed, to be able to say even more than the present members of the School. His unwearied energy, his warm interest in his pupils, and his high talents as a master, we have had the same opportunity of appreciating as they, while every year that separates us from the School only enables us to understand them better, and to value them more; but we have had most of us the additional advantage of knowing him on more friendly terms, as old Rugbians, and of feeling how much both we individually, and, as I am sure I may add, the School at large, owe to his having, by his con-



EPSOM SPRING MEETING.—GREAT METROPOLITAN STEEPLE-CHASE: THE JUMP AT THE BROOK.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

stant hospitality and true friendship, kept alive and gathered round himself those strong feelings of attachment which ought to bind every Rugbeian to the place of his education. We have also had the opportunity of observing—though, from our age, we can but imperfectly understand—how much the general cause of religious and liberal education in this country owes to his influence, which, we rejoice to think, will not be withdrawn in the more dignified position which he has now been called to occupy, and in which it is our earnest prayer that every blessing may attend both him and you.

The piece of plate was then presented to the Dean by Mr. Göschen, the head of the School, after a short speech full of excellent taste and feeling.

Mr. Moultrie, Rector of Rugby, afterwards read an address from the town, testifying their high sense of respect for Dr. Tait and his excellent lady.

On each occasion the Dean made a short reply, delivered with earnestness and depth of feeling. He spoke of the great happiness which he had enjoyed at Rugby—of the public and domestic blessings which he had received in connexion with it—and still more of the happiness which he had felt in taking part in a great and noble system, from which he had learnt far more than he had taught, and had derived lessons which would abide with him during his life, and after his life was over. He said that there was a spirit of good at work in Rugby, which he was sure would continue; and while he acknowledged that those set over the School had many anxious moments (for there must always be anxiety and care where many people are assembled and exposed to much temptation), yet the knowledge of their weakness was the secret of their strength; to be aware that evil existed, was the first means, under God's blessing, of changing it into good. He rejoiced to see the old Rugbeians rally round their old School and their former teachers, and still more to think that many of them were dispersed in spheres of usefulness in every profession, every part of the kingdom—almost in every part of the world. When at college, he had often wished that he had been a Rugbeian in his boyhood, and felt it a real privilege to have become one only in his manhood. He spoke of the cordial cooperation of the masters in their common work, of the assistance which they also received from the parents; but assured the boys, that, after all, the welfare of the School depended mainly on themselves—not merely the welfare which is proved by large numbers and University honours, but the higher welfare which consists in making the School a place where God is feared and loved. He alluded to the one dark cloud which had hung over him during his head-mastership, his severe illness two years ago—a cloud which, by God's mercy, had cleared off, and left on his mind only a refreshing influence. This led him to thank his neighbours and fellow-townsmen for the kindness then shown to him. Towards the end of his reply to the town address, he noticed the large number of foundationers who are now doing themselves credit in the School, of whom no less than thirteen are now in the sixth form.

The above is a very inadequate account of a succession of speeches, listened to with breathless interest, and received not only with enthusiastic applause, but with every manifestation of real and earnest affection. The candlesticks and clock were a present from the boys of the School-house to Mrs. Tait, and the masters sent the Dean a copy of the Benedictine edition of St. Chrysostom, in 13 vols. folio, with the following inscription in the first:—

ARCHIRALDO CAMPBELL TAIT,
PRESIDI SUO
D.D.
SCHOLÆ RUGBÆENSIS MAGISTRI
STUDIIS DESIDERIO CARITATE
DECENTEM PROSEQUENTES
A.D. III. ID. APR.
CICID.CCC.L.

On Friday Dr. Tait quitted Rugby. When he was ready to start, the boys (having procured 500 yards of rope) took the horses from the carriage, and he was drawn to the station by nearly all the School. The road was filled with hundreds of the townspeople; and Dr. Tait was greatly cheered at the station; the carriage he was in was surrounded by the applauding crowd. The train started for about 20 yards, then stopped, when the cheering was renewed; it started again, and the cheering continued until the train was out of sight.



EXHIBITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.—NO. 45. "GALLIOTTI, THE ASTROLOGER, SHewing LOUIS XI. THE FIRST SPECIMEN OF PRINTING." PAINTED BY R. S. LAUDER, R.S.A.

EXHIBITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

In the Supplement to the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, given with the present Number, will be found a critical notice of this new Exhibition of Pictures, which was opened to the public at the Portland Gallery, Regent-street, nearly opposite the Polytechnic Institution.

compass of a summer's day, i. e. in 15 or 16 hours.

A new route will also be opened up for a considerable amount of traffic from the west of Scotland to Aberdeen and the adjoining counties. Many goods—for instance, those imported into Glasgow from the West Indies, and which must run risk of injury from frequent handling and change of transport—will now be conveyed direct, instead of the circuitous route by rail or canal to Leith or Edinburgh, and thence by sea. The manufactures and trade of Aberdeen have

We have this week engraved one of the best pictures—perhaps the finest in the collection—No. 45, "Galliotti, the astrologer, showing Louis XI. the first specimen of printing;" one of Mr. R. S. Lauder's seven contributions to the Exhibition. The scene is from the following passage in Scott's "Quentin Durward":—

"You are engaged, father," said the King, "and, as I think, with this new-fashioned art of multiplying manuscripts by the intervention of machinery. Can things of such mechanical and terrestrial import interest the thoughts of one before whom Heaven has unrolled her own celestial volumes?"

"My brother," replied Martivalle, "can I look forward without wonder and astonishment to the lot of a succeeding generation, on whom knowledge will descend like the first and second rain, uninterrupted, unabated, and unbounded; fertilising some grounds, and overflowing others; changing the whole form of social life; establishing and overthrowing religions; erecting and destroying kingdoms?"

"Hold, Galliotti," said the King. "Shall these changes come in our time?"

"No, my Royal brother," replied Martivalle: "this invention may be likened to a young tree, which is newly planted, but shall in succeeding generations bear fruit as fatal as that of the Garden of Eden—the knowledge, namely, of good and evil."

Louis answered, "Let futurity look to what concerns them—we are men of this age, and to this age we will confine our care. Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof."

OPENING OF THE ABERDEEN RAILWAY.

THE accompanying illustration shows the terminus, station buildings, and adjoining scenery, sketched on the occasion of the opening of the Aberdeen Railway for traffic throughout, on Saturday, the 30th ult. In the foreground is represented the elegant bridge across the Dee, from the designs of Messrs. Locke and Errington; and which, from the peculiar difficulties attending its construction over a rapid and shifting mountain river, causing more than one alteration of the foundations, is not the least creditable among the various tasteful structures which distinguish those eminent engineers. In the background are seen the suspension-bridge erected several years ago; and on the left the numerous steeples and factory chimneys of the enterprising city of Aberdeen.

By the completion of this last iron link, increased facilities will be afforded to the tourist, sportsman, and the commercial body. The former class may now, with ease and comfort, enjoy the beautiful scenery of Aberdeenshire, which, from want of rapid communication, was, till within a few years, comparatively unknown.

Aberdeen has, for some time, been the only town of its size in the island without a direct railroad communication with the metropolis; and the commercial advantages likely to result from this establishment of a direct continuous route of upwards of 500 miles to London, cannot be too highly appreciated. The rising agricultural country to the northward of Aberdeen has hitherto exported considerable supplies of perishable commodities, such as provisions, game, fish, &c., and must be greatly aided by the quicker and more certain transit afforded in comparison with the precarious communication (in the winter season, at least) by steam or sailing vessels.

Trains for light goods have already been established; and we understand that direct passenger trains will run in the summer, thus affording passengers from Aberdeen or London opportunities of reaching either extremity within the



OPENING OF THE ABERDEEN RAILWAY.—DEE BRIDGE AND ABERDEEN TERMINUS.

as yet scarcely recovered a period of unusual depression and the commercial crisis of 1847. We trust the opening of the railway will be the commencement of an era of increased prosperity to those interests, and to all others of the populous and rising city of Bon Accord.

The appearance of our Illustration has been unavoidably deferred to this date, through prior claims upon our Artist.

THE THEATRES.

HER MAJESTY'S.

Although "Don Giovanni" had been announced, "Don Pasquale" was repeated for the fourth time on Tuesday, by special desire of her Majesty; and the performance went off with more brilliancy than on any preceding performance. On no occasion did Madame Sontag exemplify more admirably one of her great gifts—that of concealing all the mechanism of art; for those marvellous *chef-d'œuvres* of execution she so appropriately introduces in this opera, intricate as the web of Arachne, were performed by Madame Sontag with as much apparent ease as a bird warbles its song, whilst she toyed with her fan, or tossed perily her head with the most winning coquetry. Lablache gave his comic inspiration its full flow, introducing new devices and new jokes, practical and verbal, on the spur of the moment. Calzolari and Belletti sang with their usual effect, and shared the honours of the evening with Lablache and Madame Sontag.

On Thursday night the "Nozze di Figaro" was given—Madame Sontag, in her celebrated part, *Susannah*. This favourite opera, with this great vocalist, and the cast, consisting of Lablache, Parodi, Catherine Hayes, Beletti, and Calzolari, with the support, in the "Zarabanda," of Carlotta Grisi and Marie Taglioni, attracted the greatest house of the season. Every *morceau* except two was encored; and the trio "Io" was sung *thrice*, amidst general laughter and the most enthusiastic applause. The singers appeared, at last, much exhausted by the fervour of the encores, and, after a prolonged demand, Madame Sontag obtained by her mute gestures permission not to repeat "Deh vieni non tardar," which she had previously sung with a purity of tone, a taste, a feeling, and a finish which surpassed all precedent. It is needless to add the ovations that followed. The "Ice Ballet" was received with every possible demonstration of delight; the effect of its curious picturesque scenery and evolutions being enhanced by the dancing of Carlotta Grisi, Marie Taglioni, and Ferraris, Charles and Paul Taglioni. The next event will be the first appearance of the celebrated tenor from Naples, Baucarelli. He is 23 years of age, handsome, and possesses a powerful and melodious voice.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

The first appearance, this season, of Mdlle. de Meric, the contralto, took place on Saturday, as *Orestes*, in Donizetti's "Lucrezia Borgia." She was very well received; and although she had only arrived from St. Petersburg on the day she made her *début*, she sang and acted excellently. Mdlle. de Meric has a most lovely organ, especially in the lower notes, the sympathetic quality of which is very touching. Her method is that of a thorough musician. In her vocalisation, being yet so very young in the profession, she has not the charm and finish of Alboni, and in her acting she has not the dramatic power of Angri; but her *Orestes* is attractive from its saucy vivacity. With experience, she may occupy advantageously the ground of her gifted predecessors in the contralto parts.

The acting and singing of Mario, quite recovered from his cold, was on Saturday magnificent, and created the most exciting sensations: the death-scene was appallingly thrilling. To state that Grisi was sublime, will be only to echo the sentiments so rapturously expressed by the auditory from first to last of her matchless delineation of *Lucrezia*. Let us add, that the suggestion thrown out, in our last week's notice, of adding Herr Formes to the Prologue, was acted upon, and that the thundering accents of the German basso secured the *encore* for the Chorus of Masques.

On Tuesday night there was a crowded house, to witness Grisi's second appearance in "Norma," with Mdlle. Vera's *Adalgisa*, Formes's *Oroveso*, and Signor Tamberlik's *Pollio*. This masterpiece of Bellini has never been more powerfully cast than at present: Tamberlik's *Pollio* is an invaluable acquisition. He sang in the second and third acts of "Masaniello," after "Norma;" but why not give the third and fourth acts on some nights, as a change, and then the public will hear Tamberlik's exquisite singing of the air of "Sleep," in the fourth act. Rossini's "William Tell" ought to be revived expressly for Tamberlik, on whom the mantle of Duprez has expressly fallen for the part of *Arnoldo*.

On Thursday night, Mozart's terrible lyric drama, "Don Giovanni," was announced, with Grisi as *Donna Anna*; Mdlle. Vera, *Donna Elvira*; and Madame Castellan, *Zerlina*; Tamburini, *Don Giovanni*; Tagliafico, *Il Commendatore*; Polonini, *Masetto*; Herr Formes, *Leporello*; and Mario, *Don Ottavio*. The powerful dramatic situations, lovely melodies, gorgeous harmonies, and rich descriptive instrumentation in this work, render its popularity unceasing; it has stood the test of more than half a century, and every new generation confirms the flat of its predecessor. Of Grisi's intensity of graphic power in the description of the agonising feelings of filial devotion—of Tamburini's reckless prince of gallants, still unapproachable even with his diminished vocal powers—of the unparalleled charm of Mario's singing in this opera—of Tagliafico's artistic style of rendering the music of the Statue, it is unnecessary to write, familiar as the attributes of the above *artistes* in these parts are to the musical public. Mdlle. Vera and Madame Castellan and Herr Formes are new in the present cast; but the German basso was unable to appear, owing to a severe cold, and Polonini was substituted as *Leporello*, omitting however the air "Madamena." He acquitted himself very creditably in this emergency—his sonorous bass voice telling in the concerted pieces. Tagliafico doubled the parts of *Masetto* and *Il Commendatore* with infinite ability. Mdlle. Vera sang *Elvira* very artistically, especially the difficult air "Mi tradi." Madame Castellan's *Zerlina* was a charming performance; she has never been heard to greater advantage, and was rapturously encored, both in the "Batti, batti," and "Vedrai carino." The other encores were Mario in "Il mio tesoro," Tamburini in the two airs "Finche del vino" and "Deh vieni," Mdlle. Castellan and Tamburini in the duo "La ci darem," and Grisi, Vera, and Mario in the trio "Proteggia." The overture and accompaniments were superbly played. The house was crowded.

PRINCESS.

The five-act French opera "Gustave III., ou Le Bal Masqué," was produced for the first time in this country, last Monday night, as written by Scribe, and composed by Auber. An English adaptation represented at Covent-Garden Theatre, some years since, under Mr. Bunn's management, although mounted with great splendour, contained many important departures from the original text and score. At the Princess', with the exception of the cutting of repeats and the duo opening the fourth act between *Ankerström* and his wife, the opera was performed in its integrity; and, considering the resources of the establishment, was well put on the stage. "Gustavus," however, is a work exacting infinite care in the *ensemble*: it is more distinguished by its gorgeous spectacle, powerful choruses, dramatic concerted pieces, in which two actions are going on frequently, and beautiful ballet music, than as a ballet opera; and for this reason, a large arena, an extensive orchestra and experienced body of choristers, are required to approach the perfection with which it was done at the Grand Opera in Paris, on its original production, on February 27, 1833. The music is, as every amateur knows, full of sparkling melody from first to last, instrumented with Auber's peculiar piquancy and elegance: there is scarcely a theme in the opera which has not gone the round of the world, and many a barrel-organ has been worn out in grinding its galop or other dance pieces. The story is equally well known. The Swedish Monarch, who was shot at a masked ball in Stockholm, in March, 1792, by *Ankerström*, who suffered the penalty of death, after the most horrible torture, is presented by Scribe as a love-sick monarch; and his assassin is depicted as a faithful subject of his King, until he discovers that there is a *liaison* between *Madame Ankerström* and *Gustavus*. A curious circumstance connected with this opera is, that Madame Ankerström, who survived her husband in 1833, wrote to Scribe to protest against his inventive faculty as a poet, in thus calumniating her fair fame—Ankerström being a political madman, and having no private reasons for the act of assassination he so daringly perpetrated, and which he expiated on the scaffold.

The cast here was:—Mdlle. Nan, *Madame Ankerström*, admirably sung and acted; Miss Louisa Pyne as *Oscar*, the page, who was *naïve*, and sang the bravura music excellently; Madame Macfarren, *Arredson*, the fortune-teller; Mr. Harrison, *Gustavus*; Barker and Latter, the chief conspirators, *Dchorm* and *Warting*; Mr. Wynn, *Christian*, the sailor; and Mr. Weiss, *Ankerström*: exceedingly well sustained, vocally and dramatically. The chorus, "Long live the King," ending the second act, was encored: it was well grouped, and energetically sung. The scenery was very good—especially the snow-covered rocks and firs in the vicinity of Stockholm by moonlight, with the gibbet, &c.; and the last, a brilliantly lighted-up ball-room in the Swedish Opera-house, in which innumerable costumes were displayed, including visitors from the front of the house in dominoes—a privilege which seemed to have been largely exercised by the curious, who are so anxious to have a peep behind the scenes.

SURREY.

Mr. Marston's "Patrician's Daughter" has been acted during the week; the part of *Mordaunt* by Mr. Creswick, and that of *Mabel* by Madame Ponisi. The play was well mounted, and, notwithstanding its refinement, told on the sympathies of the audience.

SADLER'S WELLS.

Lord Byron's tragedy of "Werner" was revived on Monday. Mr. Phelps's delineation of the hero was a remarkably effective and intelligent performance. The night's expenses of the benefit for the Exposition of 1851, it is announced, will be paid by the management, leaving the entire receipts of the occasion applicable for the purpose intended.

ST. JAMES'S.

The vaudiville of L'Apprenti" was, on Monday, succeeded by M. Samson's comédie "Un Veuvage," the character of *Menard* being exquisitely represented by the author and actor. The well-known comedy of "La Marquise de Senne-terre," concluded the evening; Mdlle. Denain performing the part of *Henriette*. It is, however, to "Un Veuvage" that public attention will be directed; and critics will be reminded by it of his "Trois Crispins," with which it will support a favourable comparison. "Un Veuvage" is in verse, smoothly written, and artistically conducted. The plot turns upon the anxiety of a rich widower, *M. Menard*, to escape from the importunities of parents of marriageable daughters. For this purpose, he flies to the provinces; but in vain. His hostess, his former flame, and his rural neighbours, are equally bent on promoting his happiness at the expense of thier own. They quarrel among themselves, and almost make him

resolve to fly from mankind altogether. The object of a former attachment, who renews her claims, is one *Mdlle. Avenel*, a poetess, who would fain conceal her interested motives under the thin gauze of sentimentality. This artificial style of comedy admits of much that may be termed ideal in its treatment; and it is the presence of this, indeed, which gives so much refinement and delicacy to the treatment both of the situation and characters.

DRURY-LANE.

A musical farce, called "The Cricket Match," was produced on Monday; but it proved a failure.

STRAND.

A very amusing farce, by Mr. J. M. Morton, was produced here on Monday. It is entitled "Friend Waggle"—a whimsical cognomen, symbolic of the whimsical nature of the piece. It is one in which three or four characters are played off, in a sort of arithmetical series, against one another—a multiplication of cases of mistaken identity, which are only brought to a close when the possible combinations are all brought out. *Friend Waggle* (Mr. Compton) becomes the *locum tenens* for a while for one Dr. *Sasafra* (Mr. W. Shalders), whose presence is essential to conciliate the eccentric *Squire Jollyboy* (Mr. G. Cooke), who, in his 62nd year, insists on a gathering of his relations on a certain day, and at a certain place, as the condition of obtaining a place in his will. *Sasafra* arrives during the *Squire's* temporary absence, and, before he can obtain an interview, is compelled to leave on pressing business; his *Wife* (Miss Marshall) and his *Aunt* (Mrs. B. Bartlett) undertaking, with the aid of *Waggle*, to manage matters until his return. The *Squire*, mistaking *Waggle* for the *Doctor*, insists on that gentleman retiring to the same dormitory with the wife of his friend. A complication and confusion of incidents follow, in which a selfish servant (Mr. Bender) is an agent; but all is brought to a close satisfactorily at last. Mr. Shalders, as the *Doctor*, is a comparatively new candidate for public favour, and deserves encouragement. Mr. Compton performed admirably. The house was well attended.

MUSIC.

CONCERTS.

It is now the full concert season, and every day, *matinées, soirées*, and grand concerts are given by native and foreign professors. To analyze individually each of these entertainments, would occupy infinitely more space than we can afford, and a passing notice must, therefore, suffice.

On Monday, Mr. H. Wylde, the pianist, commenced a series of *Matinées Musicales* at Willis's Rooms.

On Tuesday evening, the concert at the Hanover-square Rooms, under distinguished patronage, for the benefit of Mr. Henry Boys, the organist and pianist, incapacitated by an attack of paralysis from continuing his professional pursuits, was perfectly successful in its object. The *artistes* who gave their gratuitous aid were Misses C. Hayes, Rainforth, Pyne, Poole, A. and M. Williams, Dolby, Birch, Mdlle. F. Lablache, Messrs. S. Reeves, Wrighton, Drayton, and Signor Marras, Mr. Benedict, Herr Ernst, Signori Platti and Briccialdi; with Mr. Brinley Richards as conductor.

On Wednesday, M. Szczebanowski, the clever guitarist, gave a *matinée* at the Beethoven Rooms, assisted by Mdlle. Macfarren, Misses Cole, Miss A. Nunn, and three *artistes*, Mesdames Mora, Bongioanni from Milan, and Westwalewicz, from St. Petersburg; whose names are new to us. Mdlle. Szczebanowski, pianiste, and Mr. W. G. Macfarren, conductor.—On the evening of Wednesday, the Beethoven Quartett Society recommenced their meetings in Queen Anne-street; the executors being Ernst, Cooper, Hill, and Rousselot, who played No. 1 in F, No. 9 in C, and No. 13 in B flat. Beethoven's trio in D introduced the celebrated composer and pianist, Stephen Heller, in the pianoforte part. We were unable to be present at this performance, but after the next *soirée* we shall notice these remarkable quartet parties.

Mr. Lucas had his fourth and last musical evening also on Wednesday, at which the quartets were, No. 3, Van Bree; No. 80, Haydn; and No. 7, Beethoven; with Mozart's pianoforte sonata, No. 50, played by Mr. R. Barnett, and Weber's duo in E flat, in which Lazarus, the admirable clarinet player, appeared. Sainton, Blagrove, Hill, and Lucas have played together for so many years, that their reading of quartets is as nearly an approach to perfection as possible.—Mr. Willy, the clever violinist, gave his concert at Exeter Hall also on Wednesday, aided by the accomplished Miss Kate Loder (piano), Mr. Richardson (flute), and Mr. T. Harper (trumpet); the vocalists were Misses Birch, Lacombe, Dolby, A. and M. Williams, Ellen Lyon, Mira Gresbach, Messrs. Benson, W. H. Seguin, and Whitworth.—The evening concert of Mr. Charles Salaman, the pianist and composer, at the Hanover Rooms, made the fifth musical entertainment, given on Wednesday last: Mr. Salaman had the cooperation of Miss C. Hayes, Mdlle. Therze, Magner, Miss Bassano, Messent, Herr Franz Stahl, a German basso, and Mr. Sims Reeves, as vocalists, with Hansmann, Hancock, Howell, Jarrett, G. Cooke, R. Blagrove, Card, Goffe, N. Mori, Watkins, Hill, Trust, in Mendelssohn's "Otello," and Hummel's Septuor in D minor.

MADAME DULCKEN.—In the Supplement published with the present Number is recorded the lamented death of Madame Dulcken. She was born at Hamburg, and with her brother were early associate of Mendelssohn, who, by a singular coincidence, also died in his thirty-eighth year. Madame Dulcken was married at sixteen, and in 1830 first performed here in public at Mr. Ella's "Soirées Musicales," in Herz's fantasia on themes from Mehul's "Joseph." Her fame was at once established, and her performance of Weber's concert *stück*, on her *début* at the Philharmonic Concerts, created a great sensation. Her remains were interred on Monday, in the Highgate Cemetery. A whole length portrait of Madame Dulcken appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, No. 90.

MEMOIR OF MR. PLATT.

This famed player on the horn, whose farewell of the public will take place next Wednesday, the 24th inst., at the Morning Concert, given at the Hanover-square Rooms, under the direction of a committee of management, of which Sir George Smart is chairman, including upwards of sixty of the leading musical professors and amateurs, and under the immediate patronage of her Majesty and Prince Albert, and the Duke of Cambridge, at an early age displayed such promising talent for the horn, that he was placed by the Duke of Cumberland (the present King of Hanover) in his private band, and at thirteen years of age Master Platt performed a solo before George III. and Queen Charlotte. He subsequently joined the 2nd, or Queen's Dragoons, of the band of which his father was master, and in which he remained eleven years. It was the celebrated Braham, who, hearing Mr. Platt play a solo at a concert in Newcastle, suggested to him to go to London. His first engagement was at Drury-lane Theatre for two years; and he afterwards entered the orchestra of the King's Theatre (Her Majesty's), having been strongly recommended by Anfossi and Spagnoletti as the successor of Puzzi, in whose place Platt played one night, the former having met with an accident. From that period Mr. Platt was engaged as principal horn at the Ancient and Philharmonic Concerts, Her Majesty's Theatre, the Royal Italian Opera, the Societa Armonica, the Sacred Harmonic Society, and the great provincial festivals, until the close of last season, when he was compelled to retire, having lost the whole of his front teeth from continuous pressure in his arduous duties. Mr. Costa's opinion of Mr. Platt's tone, that, in "singing on the horn, it was the finest and most genuine tone he had ever heard," is that of the general body of the profession. Mr. Platt was remarkably attentive and punctual in his engagements, and has for years been the foremost to play gratuitously for all charities, public and private. It is a curious fact, that during his career of thirty years, he never before appealed to the public to sustain a benefit concert on his behalf. Mr. Platt is one of the last of a series of great English artists, who have distinguished themselves in the wood and brass bands—such as Mackintosh, Nicholson, Hyde, Willman, Harper, Smithies, Tully, Powell, Rae, Sharpe, Cooke, &c. The best commentary on Mr. Platt's professional career, is in looking at the following list of conductors in the committee, under whom he has played so many years. Sir George Smart, Sir H. R. Bishop, Mr. Costa, Mr. Benedict, Mr. W. S. Bennett, M. Cipriani Potter, Mr. Lucas, Mr. Neale, Mr. Surman, M. Julien, Mr. Horsley, M.B., Oxon, Mr. H. Forbes, &c. One of the finest orchestras ever collected will be heard at next Wednesday morning's concert, comprising the entire Royal Italian Opera band, besides players from the Philharmonic Concerts. There will be forty first and second violins, twelve tenors, twelve violoncellos, twelve double basses, and twenty-four wind and percussion instruments, making in all 104 eminent instrumentalists—a glorious galaxy of talent, conducted by Costa, to perform Beethoven's C minor symphony, and Weber's "Oberon" and "Jubilee" overtures. It will probably be the last time that the patriarch Lindley will be heard in public: with Lucas and Howell he will play Corelli's trio in F, written for two violins and violoncello, but which is now executed by two violoncelli and contra-basso. Mrs. Anderson, pianiste to her Majesty, and instructress to the Princess Royal, will perform a pianoforte solo. That the vocal selection will be of first-rate excellence, may be certain in glancing at the names of the singers:—Miss Catherine Hayes, Miss Bassano, Miss Ellen Lyon, Miss Eliza Birch, Miss Birch, and Miss Louisa Pyne, the Misses A. and M. Williams, and Miss Dolby; Messrs. Sims Reeves, G. Benson, and Lockey, Messrs. H. Phillips and Machin, and Signor F. Lablache. Those amateurs who may not be able to be present at this magnificent concert, can forward donations to Mr. T. Chappell, of Bond-street, the hon. treasurer, or to any member of the committee of management. Performers on the horn, although expected to be first-rate artists, obtain very few pupils, and the scale of remuneration is too small to make a provision for the future, in order to be prepared for such a calamity as that which has closed the career of one of the most celebrated players this country has produced.

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH IN FRANCE.—A commission has just been appointed to examine into the merits of the magnetic electric telegraph instrument lately invented by Mr. Henley, with the view to its adoption by the French Government. A satisfactory trial was made of it a few days since on the wires of the Paris and Rouen Railway, at the office of the French Minister of the Interior, in the presence of M. Foy, Director-in-Chief of Telegraphs. In this invention, the expense and trouble of the voltaic battery are entirely dispensed with by the substitution of magnetic electricity, and wires of one quarter the usual weight are found sufficient for the purpose. The instruments tried in Paris, though very small, are said to be fully capable of working at least 1000 miles, and the importance of this can readily be estimated when it is known that for a distance of 300 to 400 miles only from five to six of the 24 cell voltaic batteries are required to work the telegraphs generally in use in England.

TOWN TALK AND TABLE TALK.

THERE is a town as well as a country naturalist. The one haunts the streets and the arcades, the exhibitions, and the lobbies of the operas—just as the beats of the other are the quiet lanes and the green coppice woods, the upland heaths, and the sedgy banks of the creeping stream. The rural and the civic observer both love to note the progressive signs of the opening season. He of the country may now mark one after the other the twittering songs of the birds among the boughs. He of the town watches the alternate re-appearance of soprano or contralto, tenor or baritone, as they flutter from every Continental nook to the grand singing cage of London. So, while your country lover marks in his greensome walks the gradual bursting forth of flower, and bud, and blossom, your town observer notes the clusters of printed leaves put forth by the book-sellers, the reiterated display of gaudiest concert placards fluttering round the music-sellers' portals, and the re-decorated aspect of West-end shops, glittering with all the newest wares fresh from English or Continental *ateliers*. Thus, too, as the country naturalist, when he first hears the twittering of the swallow, and first marks the trout leap sparkingly at the grey May-fly, exclaims that the time of snows and cold winds is over and gone, and that the summer tide is on us at last; so our town naturalist, when he marks how unceasingly the wheels of broughams graze the curb-stone of Regent-street; how crowded with gay dresses, and smart bonnets, and pretty faces beneath them, are the shops of milliners and confectioners; how the stalls of Covent-garden are fragrant with daintiest bouquets, in their lace-like envelopes; how the shows, and the sights, and the amusements—concerts and exhibitions, panoramas and dioramas, operas and plays, new statues, new pictures, new models—appear to rain down from the skies upon swarming, buzzing London; when, I say, the town naturalist notes all these signs and symbols, how joyfully he exclaims, "The dull times of the winter are over and gone—the times of shut-up houses and dolefully blinded windows, of summer haunts deserted, and naked, and bare; now is St. Stephen's once more full of its politicians, and May-fair and Belgravia of their *beau monde*; and the bow-windows of the Clubs of their well-dressed old 'fogies,' and Rotten-row of its *figurantes*, and Pop's-alley of its saunterers. The gay time is upon us again. Summer is coming in the country, and the 'Season' in town."

In the literary world there is a fair degree of stir and promise. A little episcopal incident has just attracted a moment's attention, and has afforded materials for a moment's smile. Some of our readers may have seen portions of the correspondence called forth by the affair in question. Its history is exceedingly simple. The Irish being a quick-witted people, and somewhat fond of that species of mental gymnastics commonly called jumping to a conclusion, and Irish journalists being in the van of their fellow-countrymen in this respect, the latter gentlemen chose to imagine that a certain Catherine Hayes, associated by Mr. Thackeray, in his last number of "Pendennis," with Mrs. Brownrigg and other Old Bailey celebrities, was no other than the fair and accomplished lady now delighting Mr. Lumley's audiences. Hereupon, a tremendous burst of the most virtuous indignation, and white-hot eloquence. "Ruffianly Saxon!" "Dastardly Saxon!" "Brutal Saxon!" The author of "Vanity Fair" was all this, and more. "The man who would insult a female!" &c., &c., &c. So Mr. Thackeray imitated a member of Parliament, and "explained," proving to admiration that anchovies were not capers, and that, in talking disrespectfully of the English vegetable, he had never meant to asperse the Irish flower. This explanation has been graciously accepted; and the *Freeman's Journal* announces, with native dignity, that the *amende* has been made. *Amende* for what? Nobody save an Irish echo can answer the question.

The readers of the last *Blackwood* will see that the ingenious northern has managed, upon a point of personal history, to catch Macaulay upon the hip. The historian, in narrating the execution of Argyle at Edinburgh, tells how, in order to render the party triumph complete, the troops in attendance were put under the command of the prisoner's old enemy Claverhouse. Mr. Aytoun, the author of the "Lays of the Scottish Cavaliers," proves that this is a mistake, that the officer in command was not the redoubted Clavers but a simple Captain Graham, the commander of the town guard, a sort of police commissioner in fact, like Colonel Rowan or Mr. Mayne. Notwithstanding, however, the similar specks discovered by the *Quarterly* upon Mr. Macaulay's history, its sale had been perfectly unparalleled; I am assured, on good authority, that upwards of 43,000 copies have been disposed of. There is no appearance as yet of a new volume.

In that pleasant gossiping place, the back of the Opera pit, I heard, the other evening, a story which produced some laughter. The music for one of the late pantomimes at one of the minor theatres was written by a gentleman engaged in the chorus of one of the Operas. The opening part of the entertainment consisted of an invocation to Father Thames, and the strains to which the curtain was to rise were intended to be characteristic and expressive. The first movement, however, totally nonplussed the orchestra. Never had there been written such tremendously complicated music. First fiddle, second, and third, alike swore that they could make nothing of it: such chords had never been put together by mortal man. At length the leader addressed the composer:—"Pray, my dear sir, what on earth is the meaning of this opening movement? what does it represent? what is it intended to express?" Listen to the reply, delivered with high disdain, "Represent! express! That music, sir, represents and expresses the idea of eels gliding through muddy water." Talk of the powers of music after that!

The students of parliamentary literature will have observed that a gentleman, a railway secretary, was the other day reprimanded before that august body the House of Lords, and nervous and innocent folks in the country have probably an idea that to be reprimanded at the bar of Parliament is a very awful ceremony—something similar in its mysterious horror to a judgment scene before the Holy Vehm of Germany or the Inquisition of Castile. Not a bit of it. I was present upon the occasion, and may just as well describe the scene. Fancy, then, a House consisting of four or, at the most, five Peers, lounging about, with their hats on. Earl Grey is just concluding a terribly long speech, or rather lecture, upon convict discipline. The Deputy Usher of the Black Rod stands beneath the throne, wondering, probably, when he will get to dinner. Lord Stanley turns listlessly over a Blue Book. Lord Lyttleton chats with the clerks. Earl Granville, who has to wait to move the reprimand, nurses his leg, and swings himself patiently backward and forward on the bench; while on the woolsack sits the Lord Chief Justice, in a state of most suspicious drowsiness, his bewigged head falling forward every now and then, with a sudden jerk, on his chest. At length the convict speech is over. Earl Granville moves that the offender be brought to the bar. This is soon managed, as he is comfortably seated, waiting for the summons. He appears accordingly. A short-hand writer sits down beside him. He makes a short speech in defence. The reporters lean over their gallery above him, and wish he would have done, and take the reprimand quietly. At length it comes. The Lord Chief Justice, for some mysterious reason best known to himself, puts on an uncommonly ugly three-cornered hat. Perhaps he thinks that this ceremony will make the offender think he is going to order him to be hanged. But no; the gentleman at the bar does not look one whit dismayed. Then, in sonorous, but in very few words, the Judge recapitulates the offence, and tells the culprit in a fine deep melodramatic tone that the House has ordered him to be reprimanded and discharged, and that therefore—he is reprimanded and discharged accordingly. Mr. Nash bows and walks off. The Lord Chief Justice marches behind the mace to his robing-room—and the audience in general go home to dinner. The whole affair puts me irresistibly in mind of the malediction of the Lord Abbot of Rheims, as commemorated in the "Ingoldsby Legends." It was, doubtless, a very terrible malediction; but then, quoth the ingenious author, the strangest feature in the matter was that

Somehow in spite of this terrible curse
Nobody seemed a penny the worse!

The loiterers about the National Gallery a few days ago were gratified with stolen glimpses of the backs of the pictures as they arrived in van and cab, and were handed over to the tender mercies of the Hanging Committee for due marshalling previous to the exhibition of 1850. The rumours of the studios inform us that MacIise has wakened up this year, and sent in two pictures—one a copy of the fresco designed for the House of Lords, the other a scene from "The Vicar of Wakefield." Verily, the reading of artists must be of the narrowest. There must have been about as many pictures taken from the poor old "Vicar" as there are lines in the book. It is quite time that Dr. Primrose should have a holiday. He has been made a perfect lay figure of; and unless the race of Wakefield subjects be speedily discontinued, the town may be surprised some fine May morning by a successor of the travelling artist mentioned by Goldsmith himself, with thirteen fancy portraits of the thirteen members of former Flamborough's family, who were drawn holding thirteen oranges. Neither Mulready nor Linnell are, I hear, to exhibit. Charles Landseer has gone back to old Greece, and given us dear, hunch-backed *Æsop* weaving his wondrous fables. Roberts, had he lived in the fourteenth century, would have built cathedrals; in the nineteenth, he only paints them; and this year he has not deviated from his usual line of subject. The breezes blow and the waters leap from Stanfield's canvas as usual, as the picturesque Dutch boats beat along the dyke-defended coast of the Low Countries. Linton paints once more the oft-painted waves of the Adriatic and distant towers of Venice; while the chisels of Bailey and Macdowall have been occupied—besides busts—upon the figure of a sleeping girl, and a colossal group telling the sad end of the story of *Virginus* and his daughter.

A letter from Edinburgh informs me that Mr. Murray—for nearly forty years the manager of both the theatres there, and a dramatic artist of very high pretensions—has just closed his managerial career. Mr. Murray's sister was the wife of Henry Siddons, the son of the Siddons. This lady, who was the original lessee of the theatre, died only a few years ago. Mr. Murray has long held a high position in the literary and artistic society of Edinburgh, higher and more assured perhaps than that occupied by any other manager of the day. The reader of Lockhart's "Life" will remember Sir Walter's high opinion of the Edinburgh manager.

The history of our constitution in Church and State has often been written. The three primary estates of the realm have already had abundance of historians; and, at length, a chronicler has stepped forth for the "Fourth Estate," now-a-days, perhaps, by no means the least important of the quattrain. Mr. Knight Hunt's work, this week published, begins with the ancient news-letters, and conducts the story of the gradual rise of the "usual organs of public intelligence," as members of Parliament call newspapers, down to the present day. Amid the mass of anecdote and gossip collected by Mr. Hunt, relative, amongst other departments of journalism, to the reporters' gallery, I regret, however, to observe that he has missed one story, which I believe to be in its main points strictly true, and which has long held a distinguished place in the traditions of the London press. The anecdote has not, so far as I know, been in print, and its intrinsic fun renders it really worth telling.

Once upon a time, then, about fifty years since, in those days when it sometimes happened that Pitt could not see the Speaker, and Fox saw two, it was but

natural that the gentlemen in the gallery should take in some degree after the bad practices of the gentlemen in the House. Late one evening, Mr. Wilberforce was speaking; and a reporter named Prendergast, who ought to have been attending to him, was sound asleep, with his head on his note-book. The napping functionary was roused by a burst of laughter from the House. "What's that?" he stammered; "what are they laughing at?" he inquired of his next neighbour. Now this neighbour was what was then called a wag, and his name was Mark Supple—he being in fact the identical gentleman who, on another occasion, requested the Speaker to favour the House with a song. "Laughing at," says Mark, "take your pencil, and I'll tell you. Wilberforce, you see, was praising the potato as an article of nourishment. 'Look at me,' he was saying; 'see what a lean scarecrow of a fellow I am. Why, if I had been brought up on potatoes, I should have been as stout and jolly a looking mortal as the hon. member for Galway' (the famous Dick Martin). Poor Prendergast was half asleep, and more than half tipsy, so down went the precious 'point' in his note-book; and next morning it actually appeared in the *British Press*. Great, therefore, was the fun all day, *apropos* of Wilberforce's speech; and when he appeared in the House at night, there was a roar of laughter. Presently he rose, said that he was not usually in the habit of making a fuss about reporting errors, but that there really was a passage attributed to him in that day's *British Press*—here another shout of laughter interrupted him. The good-natured anti-slavery orator stood for a moment irresolute, then joined the laughers heartily, said that he saw the tone of the House went to treat the matter as a joke, and that so, he was content to let it remain. So far, I believe, the debates in Hansard will corroborate the story; but there is a pendant to it to the effect that Prendergast, when he came down to the House, swore stoutly that Wilberforce had made use of the expressions—that he had heard them with his own ears—which he certainly had—and, finally, that he actually went round to the members' lobby, and indignantly told Mr. Wilberforce that a man of his professed sanctity of character ought to be ashamed of himself for so disgracefully denying his own words! The last portion of the anecdote, however, is manifestly too good to be true. A. B. R.

MERCANTILE MARINE BILLS.

A meeting of shipowners, shipmasters, and other persons interested in British shipping, was held on Wednesday, at the London Tavern, "to adopt measures for inducing the postponement of the bills affecting the British mercantile marine recently introduced into Parliament by the Right Honourable the President of the Board of Trade, until a full and impartial inquiry shall have been instituted into the laws and regulations now in force relating to British marine commerce, with a view to its relief from all burdens and restrictions not absolutely necessary for the public interests; to the consolidation and simplification of maritime law; and to the establishment of a system adapted to the existing system of British navigation."

The meeting was fully attended. Amongst the gentlemen present were the following:—Mr. Hume, M.P.; Mr. Forster, M.P.; Mr. Anderson, M.P.; Sir J. Johnstone, M.P.; Sir J. Duke, Bart., M.P.; Lord John Chichester, M.P.; Mr. Heyworth, M.P.; Mr. Hudson, M.P.; Mr. Clay, M.P.; Mr. Moffatt, M.P.; Mr. Ross Mangles, M.P.; Mr. Geo. Fred. Young; Sir J. Pelley, Bart.; Mr. William Phillips, Mr. Wm. Watson, Captain Gilmour, Captain Mangles, Mr. W. L. Ogilby, Mr. G. Richardson, Mr. Straker (North Shields), Mr. Harrison (Belfast), Mr. Watson (Dublin), Mr. Robinson (South Shields), Captain Henderson, Mr. Locket (Liverpool), Mr. Aiken (Liverpool), &c.

Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., was called to the chair. Mr. Locket, chairman of the society of shipowners in Liverpool, proposed the first resolution:—

That, from the assurances given by her Majesty's Government, more especially during the discussions in Parliament on the repeal of the Navigation-laws, the shipping interest of the United Kingdom is entitled to rely on the speedy removal of the existing impediments and disqualifying burdens to which shipowners are exposed from the operation of existing laws and regulations affecting maritime commerce.

Mr. Straker (North Shields) seconded the resolution, which was agreed to; as also were the following:—

That it is with extreme disappointment they have viewed the introduction into Parliament of the Mercantile Marine Bill, which, so far from extending relief to the shipping interest, is calculated to increase its burdens and embarrassments, and further to disqualify the shipowner for the maintenance of that competition with the shipping of all foreign nations which he is now called to sustain, while many of its provisions are opposed to all sound principle, and are ill adapted to improve the character and condition of the British seaman—an object which this meeting cordially and anxiously desires to promote.

That in the present unsatisfactory, confused, and defective state of our maritime law, it is of the highest importance that a comprehensive and impartial inquiry should be forthwith instituted into the existing laws and regulations relating to the shipping interest, with a view to their consolidation and simplification as far as practicable, and to the establishment of a system adapted to the present time, and to the present position of the navigation of the empire.

That the following gentlemen be appointed a committee, to prepare a petition to Parliament, founded on the foregoing resolutions, to be signed by the chairman, on behalf of this meeting, to wait upon the President of the Board of Trade for the purpose of representing the views now expressed by the shipping interest in general on the bill in question, to urge on her Majesty's Government the postponement of the bill, and the immediate institution of the proposed inquiry, and to adopt such other steps as they may deem expedient for giving effect to the important objects of the meeting; viz, Mr. Forster, M.P., Mr. Arthur Anderson, M.P., Mr. George Frederick Young, Sir James Duke, Bart., M.P., Sir John Pelly, Bart., Mr. J. Clay, M.P., Mr. George Moffatt, M.P., Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. W. Watson, Captain Gilmour, Captain Mangles, Mr. W. L. Ogilby, and Mr. G. Richardson, with power to add to their number.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

MILITARY TRAINING SCHOOL.—A considerable addition is about to be made to the hospital at Chelsea, for the comfort and accommodation of the sick students, and a new and more suitable kitchen is to be built for the use of the establishment.

THE REDUCTION OF THE NAVY.—Since the 1st of April, the following vessels have been paid off, or are under orders to be paid off:—*Cygnets*, 8, sloop, at Devonport, paid off; complement, 80. *Rosamond*, steam-sloop, Woolwich, paid off; complement, 160. *Columbine*, 16, Captain Ilay, to be paid off at Chatham, on the 15th; complement, 130. *Bull-dog*, 6, steam-sloop, Commander Wilcox, to be paid off at Portsmouth, on the 16th; complement, 160. *Alert*, 8, sloop, to be paid off at Devonport, on the 16th; complement, 80. *Grifon*, 3, brigantine, to be paid off at Portsmouth; complement, 60. *Althol*, 2, troop-ship, Master Commander Pearn; complement, 40, to be paid off at Woolwich, on the 17th. The total reduction, therefore, since the 1st of April, will be 7 vessels, mounting 49 guns, and 710 officers, seamen, and marines.

CAPTAIN AUSTIN'S EXPEDITION.—The Admiralty have taken up the *Emma Eugenia*, transport, Deptford, to take out the coals and surplus stores for the expedition. Light gunnery perches sledges are to be provided for the expedition, on a plan proposed by Lieutenant Halkett, R.N.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—The *Lady Franklin*, Captain Penny, and the *Sophia*, Captain Stewart, sailed from Aberdeen on Saturday last, for the Arctic regions, in search of Sir John Franklin. The two vessels were hauled out of the docks at two o'clock, and left the harbour amid the cheers of some thousands of spectators. *Lady Franklin* and *Sophia* have 25 men each, including officers, and are provisioned for three years.

The anniversary of Lord Rodney's glorious victory was celebrated on Thursday, by a numerous meeting of the members of the Navy Club, who dined together at the Thatched House; Captain Rodney Mundy, a descendant of the gallant Admiral, filled the chair.

MUNIFICENT GIFTS.—The Duke of Norfolk has been pleased to give a donation of 100 guineas, and the Duchess 20 guineas, in aid of the funds of the Spinal Hospital, P. Rutland-road, Regent's-park.

MR. LAYARD'S ASSYRIAN RESEARCHES.—By the Overland Mail we have intelligence from Mosul to the 4th of March. Mr. Layard and his party are still carrying on their excavations at Nimroud and Nineveh. A large number of copper vessels, beautifully engraved, have been found in the former, and from the latter a large assortment of fine slabs, illustrative of the rule, conquests, domestic life, and arts of the ancient Assyrians, are daily coming to light, and are committed to paper by the able artist, Mr. Cooper, one of the expedition. Mr. Layard intends to make a trip to the Chaboras, the Chaboras of the Romans, and to visit Reish Alma, the Resen of Scripture, where he hopes to find a treasure of Assyrian remains. The country throughout the north of Syria is unsafe for travellers, and strong escorts are requisite. The Ottoman Government, instead of favouring the cultivation of silk in the mountains, which are remarkably adapted for the growth of the mulberry, and which, in the course of a few years, would yield a staple export, are dreaming of further conquests in the south-eastern parts of Arabia, down by the Persian Gulf and the districts of Oman. An Admiral and about 50 engineer officers and ship-builders passed through Mosul on their way to Bassorah, where they intend to make a dock, build ships, and swim a fleet in the Gulf of Persia.

THE AFRICAN AND AMERICAN SLAVE-TRADE is the subject of a series of moving panoramic views just brought to this country from the United States, and announced for exhibition at Leicester, on Monday next.

THE CHARTIST PRISONERS.—On Wednesday, at the Southwark Police-court, Maynard, one of the turnkeys of Horse-monger-lane Gaol, brought up George Shill, Hugh Conway, James Maxwell, Byron, James Sconton, and Samuel Morgan, five men who, with others, were convicted, at the September sessions, 1848, at the Central Criminal Court, of being engaged in the Chartist riots that occurred at that period. The prisoners above-named were sentenced to two years' imprisonment each in the above gaol, besides the infliction of heavy fines; but, in consequence of representations on their behalf, their sentences have been commuted, and a communication was notified to Mr. Keene, the governor of the county gaol, directing the discharge of the prisoners on their procuring bail to keep the peace for five years each. It was for this purpose the accused parties were brought to this court, and, the requisite sureties having been entered into, they were accordingly set at liberty.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT MANCHESTER.—On Monday morning, about nine o'clock, a very alarming fire broke out in the premises of Mr. Thomas Baxter, cotton-waste dealer, Cross-street, Manchester. The premises are situated in a very closely-built part of the town, and are surrounded by piles of warehouses, all containing a great amount of inflammable materials; and for some time destruction threatened the adjacent property, but, by the exertions of the fire-brigade, the fire was confined to the building in which it originated, not, however, before damage to the extent of £2000 had been caused. The stock and premises are insured in the West of England office.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. P.—The word "Chess" appears to have been derived from the Sanscrit, where it is written *Chaturangi*: this by successive changes, first by the ancient Persians and the ancient Arabians, and afterwards by the modern Persians, became *Chaturang* or *Chaturang*. Of this the more modern Arabians and Moors have made *Khadrang*, or, as Nasir, adding the article, gives it, *Alkhadrang*. The Spaniards, from *Khadrang*, got their *Xaque* or *Escacque*, and subsequently *Alcazres*, or *Azres*, from whence it has been transformed into *Scacchi*, *Echecs*, *Chess*.

BLACK AND WHITE.—Examine Problem No. 323 once more. C. G. S.—Pray try your hand on something less complex. The last are only "Much Ado about Nothing!"

W. G.—*Chess* cannot be given in the first, as you propose. J. B. K., Glasgow.—At all times acceptable. R. B. W., Oxford.—It appears to us an obvious mate in two moves, if White play, 1. Q to K 2d.

F. G. R.—Your solution of Problem No. 321 was perfectly correct, but was received too late to be acknowledged last week.

A. LOOKER-ON.—There is little interest or merit in so cheap a victory. White's defence is childish.

A. B. C.—White only protracted the game unnecessarily by advancing the Q. Kt Pawn. He had an easy mate in five moves without calling in the assistance of the Q's Rook.

BELLARY.—The last in three moves is smart enough, and shall have insertion. BRUTUS.—The problem is crowded and inept, and the game evidently played by very inexperienced amateurs. At the 4th move, both parties overlook the fact that White's Kt may be won by Black's simply moving P to B 3d.

RHO GIGMA.—Much too obvious.

X. Y. Z.—If a person in leaning over the chessboard touches a piece by accident, he incurs no loss in making.

R. D. M., B. W. F., C. G. S., W. C., W. I. H., are now under consideration.

A. CONSTANT READER.—Get Tomlinson's "Amusements in Chess," published by Parker, West Strand.

CAROLUS.—Quite right.

THE BLACK PAWN.—The right of taking a Pawn in passing must be exercised at the moment the Pawn is to be captured; it is thrown forward, and cannot be claimed after another move has been made; they were perfectly justified, therefore, in advancing your Pawn as you did.

VERAX is thanked for the game. In reply to his query of where Black lost his advantage, we think the chief error consisted in playing the P to K 3d, at his 11th move.

ALIQUIS, Brixton.—In the position you give, the game must be drawn.

H. L., Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.—You are perfectly right in both particulars.

E. D. H., Bath.—The second edition contains a correction of that part of the opening to which you refer.

F. G. W.—Your second solution is the true one. If Black retreat the B to Q Kt sq, you simply take it, and then play the Rook back again to Q Kt 6th, making next move.

T. Rectory, Chester, will find the real solution to the "Stuttgard Problem" in our last Number.

P. H. J.—We cannot admit there is any difficulty in the case. If Black play, as you propose, Kt to Q 3d, White checks with his Kt at K Kt 3d, and taking P with P, checkmates in one move less than the number stipulated.

F. S.—You may rest assured the solution you propose of No. 321 is defective; although, from want of room, we cannot give the variations to demonstrate the error.

A. CLEEK, Jillingdon.—There is a chess society, called "The City-road Chess Club," 22, City-road—the terms of which, we are told, are extremely moderate—where you could, doubtless, obtain the practice you desire.

M. E. D.—See Diagram No. 9, page 14 of the "Chess-Player's Handbook." We have not space to explain the term so that you would fully comprehend its meaning.

SOLUTIONS BY Q. of Glasgow; R. P. Royal Artillery; F. G. R.; BRUTUS; J. P. Hythe; M. P. G. W. V.; New R. M. L. F. W.; RUBINUS; ET AL. B. O. Y.; S. S. Oxford; D. D. Oxford; MUNRO; O. Harrow, T. B. P. Bolton; J. A. W. J. E. Ireland; QUIN SASE, M. E. R. INTERPRETER, FERDINAND, K. K. Liverpool; DERBY, O. R. (No. 321), R. D. M., Q. MEMPHIS, URBAN. PAWN, P. H. I. (No. 324), are correct. All others are wrong.

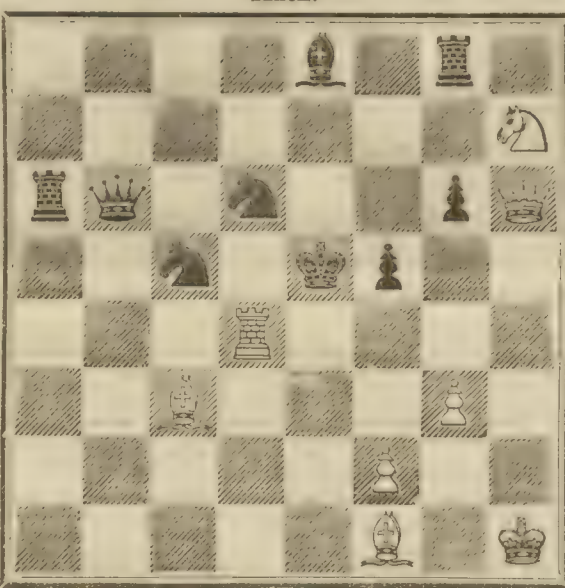
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 325.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R to K 2d	R to K sq (best)	3. R to K 5th (ch)	R takes I:
2. B to Q B 8th	R to K 2d	4. B to Q Kt 7th—Mate.	

PROBLEM NO. 326.

By Mr. W. GRIMSIAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White, playing first, to mate in four moves.

MATCH BY CORRESPONDENCE

BETWEEN THE LONDON AND AMSTERDAM CHESS CLUBS.

WHITE (London). BLACK (Amsterdam).

4. P to Q B 4th. Q B to Q Kt 2d.

London to play.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

Games in a Match now pending between Messrs. HORWITZ and GREENAWAY, the former giving the odds of the Pawn and two moves.

(Before playing over this game remove Black's K B P from the Board.)

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
(Mr. Greenaway.)	(Mr. Horwitz.)	(Mr. Greenaway.)	(Mr. Horwitz.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	16. K Kt to K Kt 5th	K to K 2d
2. P to Q 4th	P to K 3d	(ch)	K to K 5th (b)
3. K B to Q 3d	P to K Kt 3d	17. Q B to K Kt 7th	K to K B sq
4. P to K R 4th	P to Q 4th	18. Q B to K B 7th (ch)	K to K B 4th
5. P to K 5th	P to Q B 4th	19. B takes K R	K takes B (ch)
6. P to K R 5th	P to K Kt 4th	20. P takes Kt	P to K R 3d
7. P to K R 6th	K B takes K R P	21. K Kt to K B 3d	B to K Kt 4th
8. Q to K R 5th (ch)	K to Q 2d	22. K to K 2d	K to K B 2d
9. Q to K B 7th (ch)	K to K 2d	23. B to K 6th	R to K Kt sq
10. Q takes Q (ch)	K takes Q	24. K takes P	B to K R 3d
11. R takes B	Kt takes R	25. R to Q B sq	R takes P
12. Q B takes P (ch)	K to K B 2d	26. R to Q B 7th (ch)	K to K Kt sq
(a)	P takes P	27. Kt takes K P	R to K Kt 5th
13. B takes Kt	P takes P	28. R to K Kt 7th (ch)	R takes R
14. K Kt to K B 3d	Kt to Q B 3d	29. Kt takes R	K to K B 2d
15. Q Kt to Q 2d	B to Q 2d	30. Q Kt to K B 3d and Black resigned	

(c) The attack up to this point is maintained with uncommon spirit and determination.
(d) This appears to have been an oversight. Black forgot that his adversary would first drive the King back, and thus win the Rook clear.

BETWEEN THE SAME PLAYERS.

(Remove Black's K B Pawn from the Board.)

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
(Mr. Greenaway.)	(Mr. Horwitz.)	(Mr. Greenaway.)	(Mr. Horwitz.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 3d	17. Q Kt to Q 2d	Kt to K 2d
2. P to Q 4th	P to K Kt 3d	18. K Kt to Q 4th	Castles (ch)
3. K B to Q 3d	P to Kt to Q B 3d	19. K to K R 2d	Q takes Q Kt P
4. P to K 5th	P to K 4th	20. K to K R 2d	Kt to K B 4th
5. P to Q B 3d	P to Q 3d	21. Kt takes Kt	Q R takes Q Kt
6. P to K B 3d	K B to K R 3d	22. Kt to K 7th (ch)	K to K Kt 2d
7. P to K R 4th	Q P takes P	23. K R to K Kt sq	K R to K B 7th
8. Q P takes P	Q Kt takes P (a)	24. Q to K Kt 5th	B to Q 6th
9. P takes Kt	B takes B	25. P to K R 5th	B to K 5th
10. K B to Q Kt 5th	P to Q B 3d	26. P to K R 6th (ch)	K to K R sq
(ch)	P takes B	27. Q R to K B sq	R takes I (b)
11. B takes P (ch)	Q to Q 4th	28. R takes R	R takes P (ch)
12. Q takes B	Q to Q 4th	29. K to K R 3d	R to K R 7th (ch)
13. K Kt to K B 3d	P to Q R 3d	30. K to K Kt 3d	Q to K Kt 7th (ch)
14. Q to Q 2d	Q to K 5th (ch)	31. K to K B 4th	Q takes I (ch)
15. K to K B 2d	Q R to Q sq	32. K takes B	Q to Q B 5th (ch)
16. Q to K 3d	Q to Q B 7th (ch)		And White resigned.

(a) Well played, as he must win a piece in return, and relieve himself from the attack.
(b) He might also have taken the K Kt Pawn (ch) and won with equal facility, without his coup de repos.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 561.—This clever little End Game we owe to Mr. W. HORNER.

White: K at K B 3d, R at Q 6th, B at K Kt 7th, Ps at K 2d and K R 4th.
Black: K at K B 4th, R at Q 6th, Kt at Q R 3d, Ps at K B 5th and Q B 6th.

White, playing first, mates in three moves.

No. 562.—By E. H. G.

White: K at Q Kt 5th, B at K Kt 2d, B at Q Kt 8th, Kt at K B 3d; Ps at K Kt 4th, K 3d, and Q 2d.

Black: K at Q 4th, R at K sq, B at K B 2d; Ps at K R 6th, K 3d, and Q 6th.
White to play, and mate in four moves.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

On Monday, Lord Campbell took his seat for the first time as Chief Justice of England in the Court of Queen's Bench, Westminster.

The Rev. Mr. Maskell, domestic Chaplain to the Bishop of Exeter, who it was said was about to join the Church of Rome, states in a letter which he has just published, "I have resigned my cure of souls, because I have no doctrines and no faith to teach as certainly the faith and doctrines of the English Church; but, for a time at least, I leave not her communion. Brief time it may be; One alone can tell."

The following is copied from the *Jersey Times* of the 12th inst.—Drowned in the *Royal Adelaide*, on her passage from Cork to London, the 30th March, Anthony Le Ber, Esq., and his family, consisting of his wife and 6 children, 3 sons and 3 daughters, the eldest 16, and the youngest 8, leaving behind one daughter."

The Marquis of Granby had a narrow escape from drowning on Saturday last, while hunting with the Belvoir hounds between Melton Mowbray and Kirby. The fox crossed the river, and the noble Marquis charged it at full speed where it was an impossibility for any horse to leap over, and it was with considerable difficulty that the horse and rider were extricated.

There have been serious riots at Rouen again since those mentioned last week during the performance of *Tartuffe*. At the observation in Molière's play, "We live under a Prince who is an enemy to fraud," there was a loud yell, which was followed by a terrific riot; the military were called out, several prisoners were taken, and the whole town resounded to the echoes of the "Marsellaise" and the "Chant du Départ."

Letters from Bosnia in the *Austrian Lloyd's* of Vienna state that Omer Pacha was marching at the head of 40,000 men against the insurgents of that province.

The Austrian Government has notified that it will pay 20,000 ducats to the person who will construct and deliver the best locomotive for the railway which passes by the Sommering, the mountain which separates Styria from the Archduchy of Austria.

Additional advices have recently been received from Mr. Layard, at Nimroud, by which it appears that in a part of the building not far distant from that containing the throne, the whole of the culinary apparatus of the Monarch of Assyria has been discovered. It consists, among other things, of an immense brazen cauldron, and more than 100 dishes, &c., of the same metal. No golden utensils have, however, yet come to light.

The Prussian Government has some intention of entering into a customs-union with Switzerland.

At the Isle of Ely sessions, last week, the Rev. H. Fardell, chairman, in his address to the grand jury, gave a statistical account of the fires, within twenty miles of Ely, during a period of several years, which was truly appalling.

On Tuesday night last, about half-past eleven o'clock, an incendiary fire broke out on the farm premises of Mr. Thompson, of Dry Drayton (Cambridgeshire), in a straw stack standing in immediate contiguity to the house. The stack was lighted in such a direction as to bear evidence of intention to fire the dwelling-house, but in this the vile incendiary was happily foiled, as the wind veered before his purpose was effected. Farm produce and stock however of the value of £300 were destroyed. This is the fifth attempt to fire these premises within a period of six months, and a party named John Wingham has been committed for trial for the offence.

Patrick Holton, the principal witness examined before the House of Lords as to the tombstone story in the Tracy peerage claim, was sentenced, at the last sessions at Berris-in-Ossory, to two years' imprisonment for cow stealing.

Dr. Cantwell, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Meath, is at present engaged in organizing, with the aid of the clergy of his diocese, upon whom he has by circular called for that purpose, a "Tenant Protection Association," for the counties of Meath and Westmeath, which is designed to co-operate with the various tenant-right societies and meetings in Ulster, that is, the Orange North, as he alleges all sectarian feeling is fast vanishing in that quarter.

The total amount of window-duty assessed in the year ending the 5th April, 1849, was £1,893,988, and the net amount received £1,813,629. The number of houses charged was 487,411. The following towns contribute the largest amount to the window-tax:—Bath £21,278, number of houses charged 3722; Birmingham £14,586, houses charged 5423; Brighton £17,572, houses 3613; Bristol £13,280, houses 4350; Cheltenham £6707, houses 1407; Clifton £8896, houses 1373; Leeds £7596, houses 2479; Liverpool £28,856 houses 11,342; Manchester £20,576, houses 7754; Norwich £4665, houses 1871; Newcastle-upon-Tyne £7822, houses 2854; and Plymouth £11,929, houses 4927.

The Duke of Marlborough has intimated his intention of giving a cup to be sailed for during the Royal Squadron Regatta week at Cowes.

The Archbishop of Canterbury preached a sermon on Sunday, at St. James's, Holloway, in aid of the funds of the Holloway Ragged School. His grace took for his text the 113th Psalm, verses 6 and 7: "He taketh up the simple out of the dust, and lifteth the poor out of the mire, that he may set him with the princes, even with the princes of his people;" and in an eloquent discourse set forth the claims of these Christian undertakings. The collection at the door amounted to upwards of £80.

The farmers in the parish of Bothamsell, near Redford, having for years suffered so severely by the immense quantity of game on the estate, recently memorialised his Grace the Duke of Newcastle upon the subject. A reply to this has been received from the Duke, who regrets exceedingly that they have been so seriously injured, and assures them that he has given orders for its destruction, and that they shall have no cause to complain for the future.

The storm in the metropolis on Friday week was very destructive. A man, unknown, was struck dead by the electric fluid near the Nightingale, Lisson-grove, and removed to the Paddington dead-house. A billy-boy, 80 tons burthen, was also struck near to Hungerford Suspension-bridge, and instantly sank, the crew, three in number, escaping almost by a miracle. The enormous halibut that fell have destroyed property to a considerable amount in the suburbs, more particularly in the nursery-grounds at Kilburn, Fulham, Deptford, Camberwell, &c.

The *Norfolk Chronicle* complains that the Health of Town Act is, in consequence of a decision of the Town Council, to be introduced at Norwich, and it makes the usual complaints against increased expenditure and central authority.

A plain, but neat monumental stone, executed by Mr. George Rochester, has been erected in Sunderland churchyard, in memory of the late Captain Coulson Douglas, who perished behind the South Pier, whilst endeavouring a few weeks ago to save the life of his fellow-creatures.

The office of Judge-Advocate in Ireland, now held by Mr. Walker, and the entire establishment, it is understood, are to be abolished, and the duties to be transferred to the office of the Judge-Advocate-General in London.

C



GRAND BANQUET TO THE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON, AT HASTINGS.

GRAND BANQUET TO THE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON.

HASTINGS was, on Wednesday week, the scene of perfect holiday, in consequence of the long-expected visit of the Lord Mayor of London to the borough taking place on that day. At twenty minutes to one o'clock, the Lord Mayor, accompanied by several of the City dignitaries and private friends, arrived by railway, and was met by the Mayor of Hastings and the Town Clerk, who, with other corporation authorities, in carriages and on horseback, started from the station in procession through the town; the Lord Mayor in his private state carriage, drawn by four splendidly caparisoned horses, preceded by an outrider. With the Lord Mayor were his Lordship's chaplain, sword-bearer, and mace-bearer. The procession having reached the Castle Hotel, the civic party alighted amidst loud cheering.

Shortly before six o'clock, the Lord Mayor proceeded to the Swan Hotel in his state coach, followed by two or three private carriages. Having alighted, his Lordship entered the presentation-room, which was prepared on the ground-floor of the hotel.



The ceremony of presentation having been fully completed, the whole party adjourned to the banquetting room. The more distinguished of the guests occupied a table placed across the room in the upper recess, being situated on a slightly elevated dais. Behind and above them were the national colours and the corporation arms. The remainder of the guests were ranged on either side of two tables, extending the whole length of the room.

The Mayor (G. Scrivens, Esq.) took the chair, supported on his right by the Lord Mayor of London, the Recorder of Hastings (W. W. Attree, Esq.), and Viscount Chewton; on the left by Earl Waldegrave, Mr. Alderman Humphrey, M.P., and the Mayor of Rye (J. Smith, Esq.). The remainder of the guests occupied the other two tables—the Town Clerk of Hastings (J. G. Shorter, Esq.) being deputy chairman to one table, and Mr. Councillor Emary deputy chairman to the other.

The banquet was of a very *recherché* character, and was provided by Mr. Carswell, of the Swan Hotel, assisted by Messrs. Ring and Brymer, of London.

A corps of singers, under the superintendence of Mr. Hobbs, performed some musical pieces in the course of the evening. Mr. Barker performed the office of toast-master. Several of the company appeared in uniform, and others in Court costume, which united with the splendour of the general arrangements to compose a striking *tout ensemble*.

The "loving cup" having been passed round, "Benedictus" was sung.

The usual loyal and constitutional toasts having been drunk with the accustomed honours and enthusiasm, the Mayor of Hastings proposed "The health of the Lord Mayor of London." "We welcome your Lordship," said the hon. gentleman, "as a native of this town; we welcome you as an honourable merchant and banker; we welcome you especially to-day as the chief magistrate of the first city in the world, and as the first Sussex man who has ever held that proud office. (Loud cheers.) I hope, beyond the pageant of this day, a moral lesson may be conveyed to my townsmen by your Lordship's visit—that in this free country the path to fame which you have walked is open to all, and the eminence may be attained which you have reached." (Great acclamations.) The Lord Mayor gratefully returned thanks "Amidst the cares of a merchant's life," said his Lordship, "I have not forgotten the place of my earliest associations, nor, surrounded by the honour of the chief magistracy of the City of London, do I desire to overlook my old friends. It gave me much satisfaction to see you at the Mansion-house, and I consider this day one of the proudest of my life." (Continued cheers.) The Lord Mayor then proposed "The Mayor of Hastings." After several other toasts connected with the county had been drunk, "The health of the Mayor of Manchester" was proposed. The Mayor of Manchester, in returning thanks, said "he represented the youngest city in the three kingdoms, but one which was a monument of the skill, industry, and enterprise of our countrymen. Our institutions (continued

he) are connected with the land, but we are still dependent upon manufactures. I trust the commerce, manufactures, and agriculture of our empire may flourish together." (Cheers.) When the toast of the "Corporation of London" was drunk, Alderman Humphrey said—Country people and young people are taught that when they visit London, they will find the streets paved with gold. It is true. The streets of that great city are paved with gold, and you have proof to-day that any man who goes to London will find it so, whose course is marked by industry, honour, and religion. After a day passed in splendid conviviality, the party, which consisted of upwards of 100, broke up at midnight.

We have engraved the scene of the Banquet, which took place in an elegant room, embellished with statues of the Muses. On a table, in the centre of the room, stood, amongst other articles of plate, the vast silver punch-bowl presented by the Barons who attended the coronation of King George II. and Queen Caroline, A.D. 1727. It weighs 164 oz. 18 dwt., and holds about seventeen quarts. The following inscription is engraved on one side:—

This Silver Bowl was presented to the Corporation of Hastings (the premier cinque port) by the gentlemen whose names are hereon inscribed, who had the honour to be unanimously elected the Barons of the said town, to support the canopy over their sacred Royal Majesties King George II. and Queen Caroline, at the solemnity of their inauguration at Westminster, the 11th day of October, 1727; and the same was made out of their shares and dividends of the silver, &c., belonging to the said canopies.

On the opposite side:—

CANOPY BEARERS TO THE KING.
Sir Wm. Ashburnham, Bart.
Thomas Pelham, of Stanmer, Esq.
Edward Dyne, Esq.

CANOPY BEARERS TO THE QUEEN.
The Hon. Thomas Townsend, Esq.
James Pelham, Esq.
John Collier, Esq.

Between the inscriptions, on one side, the King is represented sitting in his coronation robes, with the crown, sceptre, and orb; and on the opposite side, the Queen, sitting in her coronation chair, crowned and robed, holding a sceptre and orb.

As punch is now disused, and has long ceased to be a fashionable liquor, and the Corporation preferring wine at their public festivals, a framework of wood has been made to fit the inside of the bowl, to hold decanters: by this means it still forms a handsome appendage at their dinners, and constitutes a grand centre ornament to the table.

We have engraved this fine old piece of plate, appended to the initial letter in the previous column.

The reporters of the local press justly complain that they were not admitted to the banquet; and they were justified in refusing to attend to report the after-dinner proceedings.

SUPERB TESTIMONIAL.

THE richly dight box represented in the accompanying Engraving has just been manufactured by Mr. C. F. Hancock, of 39, Bruton-street, for presentation to the Lieutenant-Colonel of the 79th Regiment of Cameronian Highlanders, now and for some time past stationed at Gibraltar. The box bears the following inscription, which indicates its donor and its object:—

"To the Honourable Lauderdale Maule, Lieutenant-Colonel of the 79th Regiment of Cameronian Highlanders, in testimony of cordial and sincere friendship, from Prince Anatole Demidoff."

This beautiful work is 2 feet 2 inches in length, 16 inches in breadth, and 10 inches in depth; it is of the finest ebony, elaborately inlaid over nearly the entire surface of the lid with silver, in laurel and grape leaves around the edge, the corners surmounted with the Scottish thistle, all superbly chased in silver, as is also a volant eagle at each end. On the lid, also, within a frame of gold, is a water-colour painting by Eugene Lami (a pupil of Horace Vernet), the subject, the colours of the 79th Regiment of Cameronian Highlanders; whilst on the inner lid is a water-colour painting of the rock of Gibraltar, by Harding.

The box is interiorly divided into six compartments, and lined throughout with cedar. It stands upon four feet of chased silver, whilst a lock, escutcheon, and key, all of silver, complete this beautiful work. It is intended for a mess-box for the regiment, and its value is estimated at about £350.

The design is by M. Eugene Lami; the workmanship by Mr. Hancock; and the result is highly creditable to the taste and skill of both gentlemen.

THE "AZORIAN" ORANGE SCHOONER.

THE Azores and Spain are known to afford the best oranges. The trade carried on in this produce is of considerable value and importance, and the present season of this fruit has been unusually productive.

A certain class of schooners, during six months of the year, viz. from November till May, are employed in the importation of oranges into this kingdom from the Azores. This trade has, of late years, considerably increased; and during the present season has employed from 200 to 230 schooners, greater part of which are first-class vessels. We have engraved one of these schooners, the *Azorian*, as being a medium specimen of this class of vessels. She measures about 105 tons, N.M., and brings about 730 chests of oranges. Among the largest and finest in the fleet are the *Susan*, *King Alfred*, *Queen of the West*, *Torch*, and *Quiver*. Vessels of smaller tonnage, however, are principally sought after, since those of large burden, such as the above, fill the market too quickly when arrivals take place in close succession, which is very frequently the case.

The orange-tree, being a native of warm southern latitudes, is a remarkable instance of one which gives employment to, and forms even an article of commerce from, the southern to the more northern European nations. Thus it is exported from Italy and Malta, as well as from the south of Spain and Portugal; but in very large quantities from the Azores. Its cultivation is profitable, not only on account of the esteem in which the fruit is held, but also from the extreme productiveness of the tree; so that the fruit is sold even in England at a price not much above, and sometimes even for less, than our own apples and pears.

Mr. Macculloch states the number of oranges imported into Great Britain in one year to exceed two hundred millions. They are chargeable with duty, which is thought questionable: they are very apt to spoil; and as no abatement is made from the duty on account of any damage, its influence on their price is much more considerable than might at first be supposed.

AMUSEMENT IN COLOUR.—Underwood and Co., Crane-court, Fleet-street, have issued a box containing a number of triangular coloured cards, the halves of two-inch squares, with which an infinite variety of coloured patterns and ornaments can be constructed. A sheet of many-coloured diagrams is given, to show the manner of combining the pieces. The simplicity of the forms, and the love that children have for bright colours, combine to make this an entertaining and instructive toy, while it appears well calculated to illustrate the elementary laws of colour for persons of all ages. So far as we know, this is the first attempt to bring down colour from the higher regions of art to the nursery or infant school.

A Treasury order, just issued, declares Runcorn no longer a port after the 5th inst., and that after the same date the limits of the Port of Liverpool shall commence at the termination of the Port of Chester, being a place called the Red Stones, in Hoy Lake, on the Point Wirral, and so along the coast of Cheshire into the river Mersey, and all over the rivers Mersey, Irwell, and Weaver, and thence returning along the coast of Lancashire till it meets the termination of the port of Fleetwood, at a place called the Hundred-end-Water."

On Friday morning week a gentleman of the Oxford University undertook to ride from Oxford to London and back, a distance of 108 miles, in six hours, unlimited to horses. He started from Magdalen-bridge at five o'clock, and arrived in London at twenty-five minutes past seven, and returned to Oxford one minute before ten; thus completing this arduous task one minute under five hours.



SILVER-MOUNTED MESS-BOX, PRESENTED BY PRINCE DEMIDOFF TO THE 79TH REGIMENT OF CAMERONIAN HIGHLANDERS.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR JAMES BATHURST, K.C.B.



This eminent officer was the son of the late Dr. Bathurst, Bishop of Norwich, by his wife Grace, the sister of Henry Charles, Lord Castlereagh. He entered the army in 1794, as Ensign in the 70th Foot, and served in Gibraltar, the West Indies, Egypt, the campaign in Poland, the sieges of Stralsund and Copenhagen. He was afterwards in the Peninsula, and was present at the battles of Voleia, Vimiera, Corunna, Talavera, and Busaco. He also filled the office of Military Secretary to the Duke of Wellington. He was latterly Governor of the garrison of Berwick. General Bathurst was created a Knight Commander of the Bath in 1831. He married, in 1815, Caroline, elder daughter of the first Earl of Castle Stuart. Sir James Bathurst died on the 13th instant, aged 68, at the residence of his kinsman, the Rev. E. Bathurst, M.A., of Kilworth, Beauchamp, Leicestershire.

JOHN C. CALHOUN, ESQ.

JOHN C. CALHOUN, an eminent American lawyer and statesman, was born in 1782. He was the descendant of an Irish family, which emigrated to America when his father was about three years old. He was educated at Yale College, where he graduated, in 1804, with distinguished honours; and, after studying the law at the celebrated Law School in Litchfield, Connecticut, he was admitted to the Bar in 1807. As an advocate, he rapidly attained high celebrity and large emoluments. He was elected a member of Congress in 1810; in 1817 he was appointed Secretary at War; and in 1824 he was chosen Vice-President of the United States, an office which he filled a second time in 1828, and which he finally resigned in 1832; he was then returned to the Senate by the Legislature of South Caro-



THE LATE J. C. CALHOUN, ESQ.

lina. In 1844 he became Secretary of State, and so remained until the close of President Tyler's administration. After that he was re-chosen senator, and continued in the office until his death, which took place on the 31st ultimo. Mr. Calhoun enjoyed in America a reputation for vigour, boldness, and independence unsurpassed by any of his fellow-statesmen. For more than forty years his name has been a leading one in American politics, and he ranked, in his influence over the destinies of his country, with Clay, Benton, and Webster. In all the relations of private life Calhoun's character was beyond reproach. The loss of so great a man is very generally felt and deplored.

ADMIRAL HILLS.

ADMIRAL HILLS was born the 8th November, 1777; he was the only surviving son of Lieut. William Hills, R.N., of Buckland, Kent, who lost his life in a storm while commanding H. M. cutter *Sprightly*. Admiral Hills entered the navy the 13th June, 1792, and, after a distinguished career, attained his rank of Rear-Admiral in 1849. He had received a medal for his services. He married, in 1813, Diana, daughter of the late Thomas Hummersley, Esq., by whom he leaves three sons and four daughters. The gallant Admiral died on the 4th instant, at his residence, Asher Hall, Essex, in his seventy-third year.

THE REV. CANON EATON.

THE Rev. Joseph Eaton, a Minor Canon and Precentor of Chester Cathedral, was the eldest member of that ecclesiastical establishment. He also held the appointment there of Chapter Clerk, and in that character he was presented with numerous testimonials for the improvement he effected in the Cathedral property. The rev. gentleman possessed high scientific attainments, and was one of the best mathematicians of his day; he was among the oldest members of the Royal Society of Antiquaries. Besides his appointment of Canon, he held in the Church the living of Handley and the perpetual curacy of St. Michael's, Chester. The Rev. Canon Eaton died on the 8th inst., in the 82nd year of his age.

LIEUT. SKENE.

LIEUTENANT JAMES SKENE, R.N., was the son of Mr. Skene, a surgeon in the army, and the nephew of Captain Alexander Skene, R.N. Lieutenant Skene, during an active career, saw much service: he was present at the taking of Washington and the attack on New Orleans. He was several times severely wounded. He was made a Lieutenant in 1815.

Lieutenant Skene died suddenly at Gillingham, on the 3rd inst., aged fifty-three.

THE REV. JOHN ROWLAND BERKELEY, OF COTHERIDGE, COUNTY WORCESTER.

THE death of this respected gentleman, the descendant of the ancient and eminent house of Berkeley, of Cotheridge, occurred a short time since. Mr. Berkeley was eldest son of the late Rev. Rowland Berkeley, LL.D., rector of Writtle, in Essex, and succeeded to the family estates at the decease of his cousin, in 1840. He inherited also the distinguished honour of quartering, in his armorial shield, the Royal arms of Plantagenet, being sixteenth in a direct descent from King Edward I. Never having married, he succeeded by his brother William.

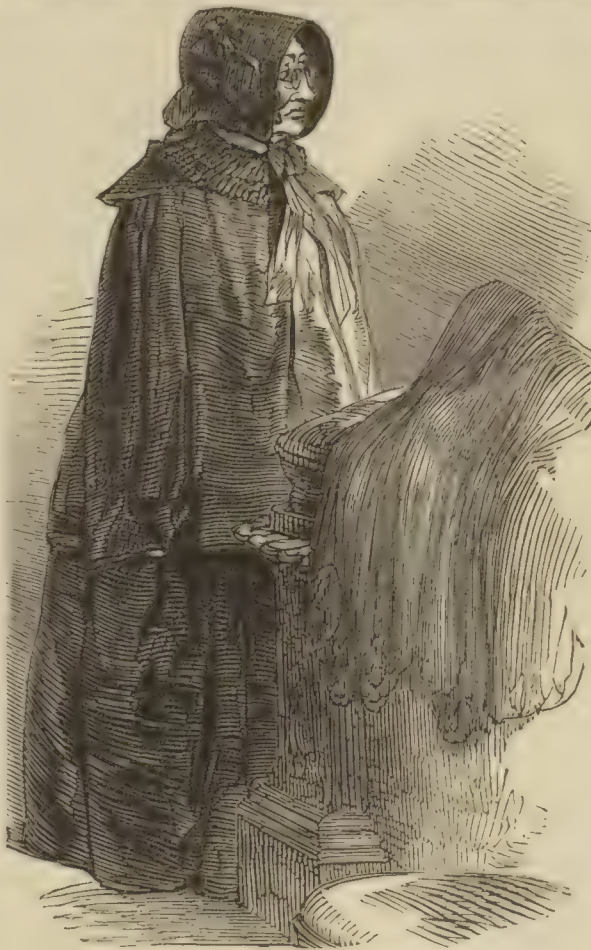
WILLIAM BEER.

WILLIAM BEER, a well-known *sagan*, was a native of Prussia, and brother of the famous author of "Le Prophète." William Beer early in life served in the army; but, having attained the rank of Lieutenant, he quitted the pride and pomp of war for the peaceful occupation of assisting his father in his business as a merchant, and of devoting his leisure hours to the study of astronomy and the acquirement of other scientific knowledge. He became, in time, one of the first astronomers of the age. His celebrated Map of the Moon, "Mappa Selenographica," constructed by him and Madler, received the approbation of most of the learned men and societies of Europe. The Paris Academy of Science awarded their Lalande prize to the authors. Messrs. Beer and Madler jointly published many other eminent works, among them the "General Compared Selenography."

M. Beer obtained honours and crosses from various Sovereigns of Europe; and his firm adherence to his own government, in his position of Municipal Councillor, in 1848, procured for him a seat in the First Prussian Chamber. He was also Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce of Berlin. M. Beer died recently at Berlin, at the age of 53.

MADAME TUSSAUD.

This famous exhibitor of the greatest collection of wax-work ever known was a native of Berne, in Switzerland. At the age of six years she was sent to Paris to be placed under the care of her uncle, M. Curtius, an eminent professor of the fine arts, and *artiste* to Louis XVI. Instructed by this relative, she became a great adept in drawing and modelling, and she had numerous pupils among the French noblesse just previously to the revolution of 1789. The unfortunate Princess Elizabeth, who was so foully murdered by the Jacobins, was one of those to whom she imparted her knowledge. Madame Tussaud came to England in 1802; her well-known career in this country is familiar to every one as an exhibitor of the waxen effigies of the heroes and heroines of all ages, whether of good or evil fame. Her reputation is unrivalled. Her emporium of characters, historic, literary, and criminal, in Baker-street, is of cosmopolitan renown. Madame Tussaud several years since published some memoirs of herself, which were by no



THE LATE MADAME TUSSAUD.

means without interest. The distinguished lady died on the 15th inst., after an illness of five days, in her 90th year.

In the volume of Reminiscences to which we have alluded, Madame Tussaud tells us that during her stay with M. Curtius, his house was the resort of many of the most distinguished literati and artists of France: she well recollected Voltaire, Rousseau, Dr. Franklin, Mirabeau, and La Fayette; she was an especial favourite with Voltaire, who used to pat her on the cheek, and tell her what a pretty dark-eyed girl she was. The personal appearance of the *celebrités* is minutely described in Madame Tussaud's volume. At that time, modelling flowers, fruit, &c., in wax, was much in fashion; and to such perfection had this lady arrived in giving character and accuracy to her portraits, that, whilst very young, to her was confided the task of taking casts from the heads of Voltaire, Rousseau, Franklin, Mirabeau, and others; her cast from the face of Voltaire was taken only two months before he died.

The volume of Madame Tussaud's "Memoirs and Reminiscences," to which we have alluded, is a very curious and interesting book, not only describing the most striking events of the old French Revolution, but portraying the different characters of the period, and painting their costumes with the nicest attention to details; such, indeed, as might be expected from a woman of Madame Tussaud's turn of observation. Many a leader of the Revolution might be "dressed" from her clever descriptions, which have more than the exactness of the records of fashions in the present day.

THE REV. WILLIAM LISLE BOWLES.

THE family from which this distinguished poet descended is one of some note. It springs from John Bowles, of Bristol, who was living in 1460; and whose great-grandson, Rowland Bowles, a volunteer under Sir Thomas Arundel at the siege of Gran, in Hungary, in 1595, received on that occasion the honour of knighthood, and the addition of the crescent to his arms. The poet counted Sir Isaac Newton among his nearest relatives; his own immediate parentage were clergymen for two generations; his grandfather was vicar of Brackley, in Northumberland; his father was also in orders; he was himself the eldest of seven children. One of his nephews is the present Mr. Justice Erle.

William Lisle Bowles (such was the poet's name) received his education at Winchester School, where he was placed in 1776. In five years he rose to be senior boy of that seminary, and won the particular notice and favour of the then master, Dr. Warton. Bowles, while at Trinity College, Oxford, obtained the Chancellor's prize for a Latin poem on the siege of Gibraltar. In 1792 he took his degree of M.A.; and his father dying, he quitted Oxford, entered into holy orders, and became a curate in Wiltshire. In 1797, Mr. Bowles married a daughter of Dr. Wake, Prebendary of Westminster, which proved a most fortunate and happy union. Lord Somers presented him, soon after his marriage, with the living of Dumbleton, in Gloucestershire. In 1803 he was made a prebendary,

and afterwards a canon, of Salisbury Cathedral; and from Archbishop Moore he obtained the rectory of Bremhill, a beautiful and romantic spot, which he subsequently rendered famous in his verse. Bremhill lies near Devizes, and near also to Bowood, the seat of the Marquis of Lansdowne, and to Sloperton Cottage, the residence of another, alas! now scarcely living poet, the illustrious Moore. The life of Bowles, like that of country clergymen in general, has been little diversified by incidents. One of the only occasions in which he came before the public in any other than a poetic or literary character, was as a magistrate of the county of Wilts, where he did good service to the cause of humanity by energetically and effectually remonstrating against a sentence of unparalleled severity inflicted by a fellow-magistrate on an unfortunate woman for a very trifling theft. His conduct at the time met with the approbation of Lord Lansdowne, then Home Secretary; as well as with that of every thinking and honourable mind.

Bowles's first publication was his "Sonnets," brought out, according to the fashion of the day, in quarto, in 1789. These were followed by "Verses on Howard's Description of Prisons," "The Grave of Howard," and "The Sorrows of Switzerland." "The Spirit of Discovery," probably his best work, came out in 1805. His edition of Pope, which gave rise to the celebrated controversy, was published in ten volumes in 1810. Bowles in this edition advanced certain doctrines respecting the "invariable principles" of poetry, which, if admitted, tended to lessen Pope's reputation as a poet. With the truth or fallacy of these principles the controversy on behalf of Pope; Byron also took the same view; while a host of pamphleteers on both sides of the question completely occupied the public attention, and kept alive the literary warfare. After a long contest, the combat may be said to have ended in a drawn battle. This renowned dispute, however, did infinite credit to the talent and perseverance of Bowles, who disputed the ground



THE LATE REV. W. LISLE BOWLES.

inch by inch, and was not dismayed by the lofty names and widely-extended fame of some of his antagonists.

Bowles wrote much both in verse and prose. His poetry, always good in style and pure in sentiment, bears the stamp of a virtuous and reflective mind; its deficiency lies in the absence of passion or the stronger emotions of the heart: it has all the elegant evenness and cold correctness of the scholar, but elevation and novelty of thought are wanting. Nevertheless, the poems of Bowles will ever afford pleasure and satisfaction to the reader, whose kindlier feelings and social affections they will not fail to move and engage in their favour. The prose contributions to literature of Mr. Bowles are very valuable. His "History of Bremhill," his "History of Lacock Abbey," and last, not least, his delightful "Hermes Britannicus," are works which alone would establish for him a lasting reputation. In private life Mr. Bowles was much beloved: he was a man thoroughly amiable and virtuous; the pleasantness of his manner, and the varied extent of his information, gave a charm to his society which few could resist, and which made him a universal favourite. Bremhill, his charming residence, formed a centre of attraction to a circle which included some of the highest in rank and the greatest in talent of the age. To numbers, indeed, high and low, came with heartfelt sorrow the news, some years ago, that this gentle poet was gradually sinking, under the accumulation of years, into a state of mental and bodily imbecility. From that condition the Rev. Canon never rallied; he died on the 13th instant, in the 88th year of his age. Bowles may be truly lamented as a poet of many virtues, and "to each fine feeling true."

The accompanying portrait is from a clever characteristic sketch which appeared some years since in *Fraser's Magazine*.



THE "AZORIAN," ORANGE SCHOONER.

THE GORHAM CASE.

The new features of the Gorham case are not unimportant. An old law has been disinterred, the 24th Henry 8, cap. 12, which enacts, in regard to the Church, that in any cause in which the Sovereign is concerned, the party grieved shall appeal from any court of the realm to the Upper House of Convocation; and this law, it is affirmed, is yet in force. It is contended, that Bramford Speke being a Crown living, the case of "Gorham v. the Bishop of Exeter" falls under this law, and that the appeal should have been carried before the Upper House of Convocation. It is, therefore, asserted that the law expressly ousts the Privy Council, and all other courts, from jurisdiction, except the Convocation, and that the decision of the Privy Council is merely waste paper. The Bishop of Exeter has accordingly, by counsel, made an application to the Court of Queen's Bench to interdict all further proceedings under the order pronounced by the Queen in Council. The motion was made on Monday, and the Judges, who took time to consider the application, have, as yet, given no opinion on the question. It may be mentioned as curious, that it was the first motion Lord Campbell heard on taking his seat as Chief Justice, and that he was himself a member of the Privy Council, whose judgment, as contrary to law, was impugned.

The clergy of the rural Deanery of Hampton have petitioned the Bishop of London, that he would advise with his episcopal brethren as to the means of remedying the evils by which the Church is now menaced. The reply of the Bishop is not known; but in the House of Lords, on Monday, the right rev. prelate informed Lord Redesdale that it was his intention to proceed with the Clergy Offences Bill, which contains a clause constituting a new Court of Appeal in cases involving charges of false doctrine. It is understood that the late decision has made the right rev. prelate suppose that the existing clauses of the bill will not exactly meet the present difficulties, and he expressed a hope that he should be able to frame a clause that would give satisfaction to the Church and the country at large. It will be fortunate if the crisis will be passed through at the expense of reviving obsolete and enacting new laws.

A body of the clergy and laity of his Lordship's diocese have deliberated as to the steps proper to be taken on this occasion; and they have resolved to remain quiet, thinking that time and patience will be the best cures for the divisions.

The Bishop of Bath and Wells, Dr. Bagot, taking a different view, has issued a declaration, dated the 15th inst., to his clergy, "on account of the great dissension which prevails in the diocese in consequence of the decision of the Privy Council." He expects them to sign it. And it sets forth that "the construction put by that decision on the Articles of the Church of England, implies that the remission of sin to all infants is not necessarily the doctrine of the Church of England, although such remission of sin is held to be affirmed by an article of the Nicene Creed;" that the decision casts doubt on the doctrine of the Church Catechism, "that all infants are made members of Christ, children of God, and inheritors of the kingdom of heaven, in and by their baptism;" and the Bishop declares solemnly, "that it is the doctrine of the Church of England, as of the whole Church of Christ in all ages, that original sin is remitted to all infants by the application of the merits of our Lord and Saviour Jesus, in and by the sacrament of baptism." The declaration was courteously sent by the Bishop to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

A numerous meeting of the "clergy and laity of the county of Dorset" has expressed dissatisfaction with the decision of the Judicial Committee, and a determination to take every lawful means for reversing it.

The Bishop of Peterborough has been entreated to take council with his right rev. brethren as to the best method of remedying the evils arising out of the late judgment of the Privy Council, and "especially to take steps for vindicating the Church's doctrine touching the sacrament of holy baptism."

The Bishop of Exeter has replied to the clergy of the Archdeaconry of Exeter—that he sets the highest value on the indication of their "faithfulness, and zeal, and watchfulness, and determination, by God's grace, to stand by the Church of England in all her difficulties." "He believes that, though clouds and storms arise, the faithful ministers of the Church will never be driven from it."

Dr. Hook, the Vicar of Leeds, has addressed and published a letter to Sir Walter Farquhar, Bart., on the present crisis in the Church, in which he strongly dissuades his brethren from leaving the Church of England for that of Rome; points out that persons holding Mr. Gorham's opinions have been found in the Church for three hundred years; and that the Tractarians, to whom Dr. Hook belongs, are not placed in a worse position by the decision of the Privy Council than they were in before. He hopes that the decision may lead to explanations amongst those who love the Church, and are equally opposed to Rationalism and Romanism, and increase the number of those who are determined to walk in the *via media*. Dr. Hook, by making light of the difference, attempts to reconcile the contending parties, and restore peace to the Church.

One of the most curious though trifling incidents that has grown out of the dispute, is the correspondence between Miss Sellon and the Lord Chief Justice Campbell. This lady is the Superior of the Plymouth Sisters of Mercy, a charitable association which has the reputation of doing a great deal of good. It receives contributions from charitable persons, and Lord Campbell had subscribed to the society. His name was on Miss Sellon's committee; but, on the decision of the Privy Council being known, she wrote to Lord Campbell, requesting him to withdraw his name, "which, noble and honoured as it is, is connected most painfully with a decision which for the present brands the Church of England with uncatholic teaching." The noble Lord remonstrated with her in a sensible letter, but the lady, though courteous, was stern and inexorable, spoke in her reply of the decision as endangering the Church; and the noble Lord, with more humility than was shewn by the lady, submitted to her sentence, and withdrew his name from the committee. So a dispute, which Dr. Hook regards as merely verbal, separates those who were united by charity and benevolence.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

CAMBRIDGE.—At a congregation holden on Tuesday last, the following graces were offered to the Senate:—1. John Disney, of the Hyde, in the county of Essex, Esq., having offered to present to the University a valuable collection of ancient marbles and statuary, with the view of its being placed on one of the public buildings of the University, and being kept together as an archaeological collection bearing his name: to accept Mr. Disney's munificent offer on the condition above specified.—2. To authorise the Syndicate appointed for the management of the Fitzwilliam Museum to receive the collection into the museum, and to make the necessary arrangements with Mr. Disney for its removal.

THE DEANERY OF SALISBURY.—This preferment has been conferred by the Premier on the Rev. Henry Parr Hamilton, M.A., the author of a recent able defence of the Committee of Privy Council on Education.

PREFEMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The Rev. Henry Edward Abney, to the deanery rural of Derby; the Rev. R. Eldridge, to the rectory of Desford, Leicestershire; the Rev. J. H. Townsend, to the rectory of East Down, Devon; the Rev. John Miles Cox, to the rectory of Church-Knowle, Dorset; the Rev. Thomas Dix, to the rectory of Thwaite All Saints, Norfolk; the Rev. William Wilkinson, to the rectory of Hambleton, Surrey; the Rev. Henry Butler, to the rectory of Llandysilio, Montgomeryshire.

VACANCIES.—Staverton Vicarage, Devon, diocese Exeter; value, £366, with residence; patrons, Dean and Chapter of Exeter; Rev. W. Martin, deceased. Mastership of Durham United Blue Coat and Sunday Schools; salary, £100; testimonials before May 1. Aldenham Vicarage, Herts, diocese Rochester; value, £425, with residence; patrons, Trustees of P. Ithellson, Esq.; Rev. E. Benbow, deceased. Camberwell, Emmanuel parish church, Surrey, diocese Winchester; value, £300, with residence; patron, Sir E. B. Smyth, Bart., Rev. Robert Fayer, deceased. Cradley parish church, county and diocese Worcester; value, £116; patrons, trustees; Rev. John Jones, deceased.

IRELAND.

THE ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY'S CATTLE-SHOW.—The spring show of cattle, pigs, poultry, farming implements, &c., took place on Tuesday, at the grounds attached to the Royal Dublin Society. A meeting of the society took place in the evening. Shortly after eight o'clock the chair was taken by the Lord Lieutenant. His Excellency was attended by the private secretary, Sir William Russell, Bart., Master of the Horse, Captain Bernard, aide-de-camp, and Captain Robert Williams. Amongst the personages present were the Lord Chancellor, the Marquis of Downshire, Lord Riverston, the Honourable A. F. Nugent, Lord Plunket, the Earl of Charlemont, Lord Talbot de Malahide, Viscount Bangor, the Lord Bishop of Tuam, Viscount Lorton, Viscount Mounck, the Lord Bishop of Kilmore, the Earl of Mayo, Lord Clarina, Sir Percy Nugent, the Revs. Francis T. Gregg, Andrew J. Gregg, and T. A. Stopford; Colonel D. C. La Touche, the Right Hon. T. F. Kennedy, the Hon. Thomas Preston, the Rev. John Warburton, Sir Edward Kennedy, Lieutenant-Colonel Shaw, Lieutenant-Colonel Hill, Baron Lefroy, the Lord Mayor, &c. The list of premiums having been read, Mr. Sproule and Dr. Ailman read papers. Mr. Foote adverted to the objects of the society, and thanked his Excellency, on the part of the society, for being present on that occasion. His Excellency said, he begged to return his sincere thanks to the society for the kind and flattering expressions with which Mr. Foote, upon their part, had acknowledged the very slender compliment of his appearing there that evening. He then adverted at some length to the progress of agricultural industry in Ireland, and urged the increased cultivation of flax. Before he sat down he would take the liberty of congratulating them on their meeting and on their exhibition, respecting the object and utility of which he entirely agreed in the observations which had fallen from Mr. Foote. He wished all success to the exhibition, and he hoped they would become general and frequent in Ireland, because experience had demonstrated their importance in bringing together in harmonious combination those whose interests, when rightly understood, were strictly identical, by stimulating that competition which was the greatest incentive to human progress; and last, though let him say not least, by excluding altogether matters of political or sectarian difference (hear) for if there is a spot in the world where men of the most opposite sentiments may meet in friendly intercourse, he was of opinion that it was the show-yard of the Royal Dublin Society. (Cheers.) The proceedings of the evening then terminated.

The newspapers from the various provincial sea-ports describe emigration as going forward without intermission. The *Waterford Mail* says:—"More persons have left our port destined for America than any other during the season. The great majority were of the better class of farmers." The *Cork Constitution* says:—"A numerous body of respectable-looking farmers, with their wives and children, from the midland counties, arrived in this city on Thursday by railway, all intending to emigrate. Same day, the *Wollron* and *Susan* sailed from Queenstown, with emigrants."

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE LORD MAYOR'S GRAND BANQUET TO HER MAJESTY'S MINISTERS.

On Wednesday, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained her Majesty's Ministers and their ladies and a large party in the Egyptian Hall, which was prepared for the occasion in a style of great magnificence.

Amongst the company present, which consisted of about 260, were:—Lord and Lady John Russell and Miss Lyster, Marquis of Lansdowne, Lord and Lady Palmerston, Earl and Countess Grey, Marquis of Breadalbane, Lady Grey, the Danish Minister and Lady, the French Ambassador and Lady, Lady Mary Wood, the Netherlands Ambassador, Lord and Lady Langdale, Mrs. Fox Maule, Lord and Lady Roseberry, Earl and Countess Z. Hall, Earl and Countess Arundel, Earl and Countess Charlemont, Earl and Countess Morley, Earl and Countess Listowel, Miss Stone, the Earl of Essex, Lady Ann and Miss Tunnell, Lord Ebrington and Lady Ebrington, Lord Marcus Hill, Lord and Lady Lillford, Lord and Lady Camoys, Sir Thomas and Lady Wilde, Lord Robert Grosvenor, Lord and Lady Dinorben, the Earl and Countess Mulgrave, the Earl of Grosvenor, Lord and Lady Alfred Paget, Lord and Lady Wodehouse, Lord Elphinstone, &c.

After the various loyal and complimentary toasts had been duly honoured, the Lord Mayor gave the toast of the evening. He said: My Lords, ladies, and gentlemen.—The toast I am now about to propose to you I am quite sure will give satisfaction to every one present. I have the honour to propose to you the health of the eminent statesman who presides over the dignities of this kingdom, my Lord John Russell. (Loud cheers.) And in so doing, allow me to couple with that toast the name of her Majesty's Ministers. (Cheers.)

Lord J. Russell: My Lord Mayor, my Lords, ladies, and gentlemen,—I rise to return to you my respectful thanks for the honour which you have done me. Permit me, in the first place, to say, that I greatly regret that the Lord Chancellor and the Lord President of the Council have been prevented from availing themselves of your kind hospitality. In receiving the hospitality of the City of London, I can never do so without reflecting upon the mighty changes that have taken place in the history of this country, and with which this great city is connected. With the institutions which have existed from its very beginning, we now behold this great city uniting all the improvements of modern civilisation. I am happy to perceive that you continue those pursuits of commerce which, while they add to the wealth of the country, are connected with every species of improvement which tends to unite us with the other nations of the globe in the bonds of amity, and tends to the improvement of mankind. My Lord Mayor, you have done us the honour of drinking our healths, as entrusted with the important task of advising our Sovereign and the Government of the country. During the term that we have had the honour of holding office, there have been times of difficulty and of the utmost distress. We have had to encounter scarcity of food in one part of the United Kingdom, and attempted rebellion in the other. We have had to contend with commercial distress in this great metropolis and the other towns throughout the country. We have had to contend with attempts at rebellion and separation of the United Kingdom. Far be it from me—indeed it would be most improper for me in this place—to enter into political topics, or to discuss in any way the policy which we have pursued, but this I may venture to say, that we have not been despondent in those times, that we have not quailed before the enemies of our Sovereign (hear); and that in times of commercial difficulty we at least gave our best energies and our best attention to every measure which might tend to relieve that distress and restore commercial prosperity. I can say no more than that the spirit in which those difficulties were met was not unworthy of Englishmen, nor unworthy of the great country whose affairs we had to preside over. Let me assure you that we shall endeavour to conduct affairs in future in the same spirit, and that we shall consider that the institutions of the country are never so safe and never so honoured as when they receive those amendments from time to time of which they are capable, that we shall never throw aside anything as useless merely because it is old, that we shall never retain anything merely because it is ancient, and that we shall never reject anything as strange merely because it is new. It is, in my opinion, by combining a due reverence for antiquity, by preserving proper respect for the spirit in which our institutions were founded, and at the same time adapting them to the wants of the present day—it is by this combination of respect for antiquity, and a regard for all modern improvements, that the freedom and happiness of this country can be secured. (Cheers.) I am happy to say that I again have the honour of seeing near me the Ambassador from France, whom I have on former occasions heard say that his presence in this hall was a token of the intimate union between the two countries. (Cheers.) May that union long continue between two such mighty countries! I believe that the intimate communion of two such enlightened countries—countries which have so brilliantly proved their prowess in arms, and who have shown their abilities in every department of literature and civilisation—the union of two such countries cannot but lead to the peace of the world, and promote the welfare of mankind. (Loud cheers.)

The Lord Mayor then proposed "The health of the Foreign Ministers," coupling with the toast the name of the French Ambassador.

The toast having been warmly received, and M. Drouin de L'Huys, the French Ambassador, in a brief speech acknowledged the compliment, Earl Grey and Lord Palmerston subsequently responded to the respective toasts of the Houses of Lords and Commons, with which their names were associated.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

INDIA-HOUSE.—A special general court of directors and proprietors of the East India Company was held on Wednesday at the Company's house, Leadenhall-street. James Shepherd, Esq., chairman of the Court of Directors, presided. Mr. Sullivan proposed four resolutions, in which he propounded the justice and necessity of admitting the right of adoption, as a principle, on the part of the native Princes. He quoted and read sixteen different instances, in which he maintained that the Indian Government had acknowledged that right; but the late case of the Rajah of Sattara was an exception, and for fear of it becoming a general rule with the Government to refuse to the other native chiefs the same rights as they had done to the Rajah of Sattara, he had brought forward these resolutions, which acknowledged the right of appointing a successor, by adoption, on the part of the native Sovereigns of India. Colonel Dickinson seconded the resolutions. The chairman said, if the resolutions now proposed were pressed on the part of Mr. Sullivan, he must move as an amendment the previous question, as they were an indirect censure on the conduct of the Indian Government. (Hear.) Mr. Sullivan said, if he stood alone, he would have the resolutions recorded in the minutes of their proceedings, and should therefore press for a division. Mr. Lewin opposed the resolutions, as being a waste of time, and not likely to lead to any practical result. Mr. Marriott begged to remind the court that the hon. proprietor was one of the requisitionists who had called the present court together. Captain Gordon supported the motion, as did also General Briggs. The resolutions were put to the vote *seriatim*, and negatived by considerable majorities, only six or seven hands being held up in their favour. The court then adjourned.

CITY COMMISSION OF SEWERS.—SANITARY IMPROVEMENT.—On Tuesday, at a meeting of the Commission in Guildhall, Mr. Deputy Peacock in the chair, Mr. Alderman Moon, pursuant to notice, moved—

That the medical officer of health of the city of London having stated in his report, that "it is absolutely necessary, for the present progress of sanitary measures within the City, to have accurate, periodical intelligence of all such sickness at least as comes under parochial treatment;" that the Committee on Health appointed by the Commissioners having, in their report, expressed their opinion "that it is quite indispensable that any committee of health should receive the largest and most accurate returns which can be procured of all sickness occurring among the poorer classes, and particularly in respect of all epidemic, endemic, and infectious disorders; and they having recommended that the same be obtained accordingly;" it is the opinion of this Court, that Mr. Simon be, and he is hereby, instructed to put himself in communication with the eleven medical officers of the several unions in the city of London, so as to obtain the said information for the use of this commission, at a cost not to exceed the sum of £500 per annum.

He said that the last court having decided by a majority of one only against the recommendation of the committee which considered Mr. Simon's report, namely, that £250 should be annually voted for the purpose of obtaining the information required by their medical officer, and the attendance on that occasion having been very thin, he felt it due to the importance of the question that the subject should be re-examined in a fuller court that day, and therefore it was he had given his notice of motion. He believed Mr. Simon's answer to a question put to him at the last meeting showed that the reduced sum of £250 amongst eleven medical officers was a very inadequate remuneration, and would fail in securing sufficient information for their purpose; and his motion therefore now was, that Mr. Simon's original suggestion for granting £500 for the same object be adopted instead of £250. The Chairman seconded the motion. Mr. Whiteside moved as an amendment that an addition of 25 per cent. to the present salaries of the medical officers of the City unions be allowed to them for making out the requisite returns. This would altogether amount to £245 annually, and would secure an equitable distribution of that amount in proportion to the varying duties of the different medical officers. The committee were satisfied, before they adopted the £250, that that amount would procure all the information that was wanted; otherwise they would never have recommended that vote. Mr. Rathbone seconded the amendment. After considerable discussion, the Chairman put the question to a show of hands, when the motion for voting £500, and the amendment for granting £245, were both rejected—the majority against the former being 19 to 9, and against the latter 19 to 11. The result therefore is, that the decision of the previous court, to make no grant whatever, remains unaltered. The court then broke up, leaving the concluding paragraphs of the Committee of Health's report for discussion at the next meeting.

ST. JOHN'S SERVANTS' SCHOOL.—The seventh report of the state of this school has been recently published; and as this valuable institution appears to be but little known in comparison with its great merits, we feel it only due to its patrons to state briefly the objects of the establishment. It was founded in 1842 for the purpose of training young girls for service, especially those who were old enough to be instructed in the different branches of household work. The children are admitted into the school on payment of a sum of money apportioned to their age, and an education and home is secured to them for a less cost than would be required for board and lodging in a family, without including their clothing and education. The school was originally opened with one or two children. It is now calculated to hold 110, and at the present time its inmates amount to 113. This great increase in the number of children has required corresponding exertions from those benevolent patrons by whose subscriptions it has been supported. The distressing circumstances under which many families are left at a very early age, has led to the admission of younger children than was at first intended; but the institution is in a most efficient state, and only requires to be more extensively known to secure the sympathy and aid of the public. The school is situate at 22, Great Ormond-street, and an inspection and inquiry into its objects and results will afford ample gratification to every one disposed to promote the education and welfare of the working classes.

IONIAN BANK.—A special general meeting of the proprietors of this company took place on Thursday (last week), at the offices of the company, No. 6, Great Winchester-street, City, Oliver Farrer, Esq., in the chair. The chairman stated, that, as the present meeting was convened solely for the purpose of electing a director in the place of Lieut.-Col. Sir Frederick Hankey, who had retired, there would be no report, and it only remained for him to propose John Rankin, Esq., to fill up the vacancy. The resolution was carried unanimously; and after a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting separated.

GREAT CENTRAL GAS COMPANY.—At a meeting of the trustees of the Essex and Mid Essex Roads, at Old Ford, on Thursday, permission was refused to this Company to lay down mains from their proposed works at Bow along the line of road under the management of the trustees, for the purpose of supplying the City with gas.

BROMPTON HOSPITAL.—A special meeting of the governors and directors of the Hospital for Consumption was recently held in the board-room. The Rev. Sir Henry Foulis presided; and among the numerous influential noblemen and gentlemen present were the Earl of Gormyn, M.P.; the Hon. Octavius Duncombe, M.P.; Captain Gladstone, R.N.; the Hon. Col. Damer, M.P.; the Hon. Admiral Percy; the Hon. J. W. Percy, &c. Business relating to the standing rules of the institution was entered into, and the report of the committee appointed to revise the same was presented; after which a power of attorney to the treasurer, John Labouchere, Esq., to receive dividends upon stock, received the seal of the Corporation; as did also a contract for the internal fittings of the new chapel. The meeting then adjourned until Thursday the 25th inst.

LONDON HOSPITAL.—The 110th anniversary festival of this charity was held at the London Tavern, on Thursday evening, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge in the chair. It appeared from the statement made in the course of the evening, that the number of in-patients in the hospital during the past year was 4402, of which number 3783 were discharged, 298 died, and 321 remained in the house on the 1st of January last. During the same period the number of out-patients was 16,816, making a total of 20,906. The total number of patients, since the foundation of the Hospital in 1740, has been 925,616. During the evening a collection was made, amounting to upwards of £2500.

ROYAL NAVAL BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—A quarterly court of the members of this institution took place on Monday, at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James's, Lord Radstock (the president of the society) in the chair. The statement of accounts showed that the receipts for the last year, including a balance of £902, amounted to £2163, and the disbursements to £666, leaving a balance in favour of the society of £1497. A resolution was made to the effect that £10 should be annually paid to the Royal Naval Female School, as an equivalent for 40 votes to that institution. The motion was lost by a majority of five, and after a vote of thanks to the chairman and auditors, the meeting separated.

SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF MEDICAL MEN.—A general meeting of the members of this society took place on Wednesday evening, at the Gray's Inn Coffee-house, Holborn; Mr. Ware, vice-president, in the chair. Mr. Walsh, the secretary, read the report, which stated that the receipts amounted to £1304 14s. 10d., including a balance of last year of £389 7s. 7d. After discharging the necessary claims, there was a balance in hand of £221 18s. 2d., added to which there was a sum of £210 stock, balance of £490, 41 ss. 5d. invested. There were now receiving assistance from the funds thirty-seven widows and sixteen children of deceased members, while £39,578 had been distributed in relief by the society. The report was adopted, and, after a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting separated.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK HILL.—The anniversary festival of this charity, which was instituted in 1758, was celebrated at the London Tavern on Thursday evening; Mr. John Remington Miles presiding. The number of children now in the school amounts to 214. Altogether, 1414 children have been admitted to the schools, and most have been placed in situations, where, by their good conduct, they have been able to maintain comfortable positions in society. In the course of the evening, subscriptions and donations to the amount of nearly £800 were announced, including 250 guineas from her Majesty, who has consented to become patron of the society, and purchased a life nomination, which entitles her always to have one child in the school.

GOVERNESSES' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—The anniversary dinner of the friends of this institution was held at the London Tavern on Wednesday evening, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge presiding, supported by the Right Hon. the Earl of Kintore, the Right Hon. the Earl Talbot, the Hon. George Rice Trevor, M.P., Sir Robert Gore Booth, Bart., Mr. Henry Bingley, the Rev. Joseph Brown, M.A., Mr. Frederic Patey Chappell, Mr. James William Gilbart, F.R.S., Mr. Montague Gore, Mr. Buxton Kenrick, Mr. Charles Podmore, Mr. William Jesse Street, Mr. Joseph Webster, Mr. Williams, Mr. C. E. Wratisslaw, M.S. C. Hall, &c. The usual loyal toasts having been drunk, his Royal Highness rose to propose the toast of the evening, and in doing so expressed the great pleasure he experienced in being able to take the chair for the fifth time, notwithstanding the society had only been established about seven years. The society was one of such importance, that he almost wondered it had not been established at an earlier period. During the seven years the society had been in existence, it had obtained an act of incorporation under Royal charter, and the seven objects which it proposed to accomplish had been thus carried out:—

1. The Ladies' Committee had themselves investigated 775 individual cases. They had had 3150 applications from distressed ladies, and had had the pleasure of giving aid 1520 times with an amount of £3980 18s. 6d.
2. The annuities to the aged had been steadily increased, as fast as could be done from vested capital, not from income, and there were now thirty-five ladies regularly receiving a small but certain income. Of these, twenty received only £15 a year, but the kind exertions of the Honourable Mrs. William Ashley had already added £5 a year to six of the annuities; and, for the year, it was hoped, meet with deserved co-operation, so that in a few months there would be no annuitant on the society's book with less than £20 a year. The sum invested was £16,098 2s. 10d.
3. The provident fund was a great blessing to governesses—a class generally very unprotected, and with little or no knowledge of business matters. This fund now amounted to £58,286 16s. 7d., the savings of 553 ladies, invested in the safest of all securities, Government security, to form a provision for their old age. The savings-bank might be considered as part of this branch, for in both these particulars, all expense and all the trouble were taken by the society, and, while they refused to hold the ladies' money, they gave them the opportunity of placing it in safety. The savings-bank account was £1082 15s. 7d.
4. The home continued to be much esteemed. It was almost always full; and of the 412 ladies who had sojourned there, all spoke with gratitude—all wished to come again.
5. The registration, free of expense, saved thousands annually to governesses. No less than 553 ladies had availed themselves of it; of whom 3099 had been provided with situations.
6. The asylum for the aged was opened last June, and ten ladies were now its contented inmates, enjoying the ease, the comforts, and the consideration so justly due to their past lives of usefulness.
7. The college (setting aside the question of an improved education for all classes of ladies) had extended great means of improvement to governesses, by gratuitous lectures to those actually engaged in tuition, by an entirely free education to seven young ladies dependent upon governesses, and by 260 certificates of qualification, which justly tended to raise the holders in public estimation.

He had considered all these details which he had read, because it was impossible to retain them properly in the mind without the assistance of memoranda, and could bear testimony to the comfortable nature of the asylum at Kenish Town, having personally visited it, and examined its accommodations. (Applause.) In conclusion, he begged to drink "Prosperity to the Governesses' Benevolent Institution." (Loud cheers.) The health of the noble Duke, and a variety of other toasts, having been drunk, the company separated. In the course of the evening a collection was announced, which (including a legacy of £500) amounted to about £1700.

BRITISH LADIES' FEMALE EMIGRANT SOCIETY.—On Tuesday, the first annual meeting of this Society, which was established for providing employment and instruction for female emigrants during their voyage, &c., was held, at Willis's Rooms. His grace the Duke of Argyll took the chair. Among the company present were Lord Ashley, M.P., A. Stafford, Esq., M.P., the Marquis Choimondeley, Evan Baillie, Esq., the Rev. E. Holland, &c. Among the ladies in the room were the Marchioness Cholmondeley, the Countess Grey, the Countess of Ellesmere, Lady Radstock, Countess of Rosebery, Lady Aspley, Lady Buxton, Lady Mary Wood, Lady Mary Howard, Lady Louisa Finch, &c. The noble chairman, in opening the proceedings of the day, said this society did not propose to encourage or aid emigration by large funds; it merely proposed regarding emigration as an established fact, to do all in its power to purify and regulate its character. The Hon. Arthur Kinnaird read the report of the committee, consisting of ladies, which states said the society was formed for the purpose of the moral improvement of the emigrants by the following means:—

1. By the establishment of homes for the reception of the female emigrants, where they may be instructed and prepared prior to their leaving their native country.
2. By providing visitation at the ports, where the emigrants are formed into industrial classes, and supplied with means for their instruction and employment during the voyage, through the agency of the visiting committees.
3. By securing that, previous to their departure, and efficient matrons for the superintendence of the young women on the voyage, through the agency of the matrons' committee.
4. By forming corresponding societies in the colonies, for the protection and assistance of the female emigrants on their arrival.

With regard to the first of these measures, the committee have not been able to take any steps for carrying it into effect. Auxiliary committees have been appointed for the collection of funds and materials, and spreading an interest in the objects of the society at Brighton, Camberwell, Deptford, Hampstead, Hyde Park, North London, Peterborough, South Essex, and Tottenham. The various places where emigrant vessels touch on the English coast are visited by clergymen and others in connexion with the society, and every assistance has been given to the society by her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, and the Directors of the New Zealand Company. Mr. Sidney Herbert's committee have entrusted the selection of matrons to the matrons' committee of this society. The visiting committees at Deptford visit the emigrants as they arrive at the Government depot. The young women are then formed into industrial classes; their capabilities are inquired into, books and materials are distributed, and such advice and relief as seem needful are given. The married people and children are also assisted as far as possible. Each class is furnished with a certain quantity of both plain and fancy work; and the books, with a store-bag of materials, are placed in the hands of the matron, who is also provided with a day-book to report proceedings during the voyage to the parent society, or to corresponding societies in the ports in the colonies. Since March, 1849, 46 ships have been visited, having a total number of emigrants of 5851, including 734 single women (the peculiar charge of this society). In consequence of the short time this society has been in existence, the committee have received but few reports of the success of their efforts. They have, however, heard of the safe arrival of two vessels—the *Scindian* and the *Duke of Bedford*—bound to the Cape, which were visited at Deptford. From an emigrant on board the *Scindian* a letter has been received, bearing testimony to the happy results of the means of improvement provided by the society. The matrons' committee have secured the services of three clergymen and two ladies to examine the candidates to become matrons. The committee have examined 90 candidates. To such as have been accepted, a

PLUMTREE-COURT RAGGED SCHOOL.—A public meeting of the friends and patrons of this society took place on Thursday evening at the Inquest-room, St. Andrew's-court, Holborn; John Buckmaster, Esq. (in the absence of Sir James Duke), in the chair. The report stated the gratification the committee experienced at the amount of good they had been enabled to perform from the adoption of these schools. An average number of 30 boys had regularly attended, while there were 89 names on the books; and 20 girls were constant, also, in their attendance, while there were 62 names on the books. The report was adopted; and several resolutions unanimously passed confirmatory of the advantageous results of these ragged schools. Several clergymen and gentlemen addressed the meeting, and after a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting separated.

WESTMINSTER AND NORTH-WESTERN LONDON PENITENT FEMALE ASYLUM.—A meeting of the friends and supporters of this institution was held on Wednesday night at the Music Hall, Store-street, Bedford-square, for the purpose of promoting the objects of the charity, of which the Duke of Argyll, the Marquis of Blandford, and the Hon. William Ashley are patrons. Mr. John Labouchere occupied the chair. From the report read, it appeared that during the last year twenty-nine females were received into the asylum, twelve were placed in situations of comfort and respectability, and five were restored to their friends. Since the establishment of the institution, in December, 1837, no less than 266 had been received, and the present number of inmates is 91. The balance-sheet showed that the expenditure during the year had been £719 1s. 8d., less 19s. 7d., which remained as a balance in hand. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Mr. Brock, Mr. Longdale, M.A., Mr. D. W. Owen, the Rev. John Robinson, Lieutenant Blackmore, and others; and resolutions declaratory of the benefits of the institution, and in favour of its objects, were unanimously adopted. It was also determined that an appeal should be made to the public generally to further the interests of the institution, by contributing to its enlargement and subscribing to its support.

PROTECTION OF WOMEN.—The annual meeting of the Associate Institution for Improving and Enforcing the Laws for the Protection of Women, was held at the Hanover-square Rooms on Thursday; the Right Hon. the Earl of Talbot in the chair. A report was read, which stated that the act of Parliament which the Bishop of Oxford had caused to be passed last session was found to be so surrounded with difficulties, as to render it almost impossible to be put in force for the protection of women, and the stopping of immorality. A step, however, had been taken in the right direction, and the committee proposed to follow it up by the introduction into Parliament next year of a measure which, it was hoped, would prove more efficient. The revenue for the past year had amounted to £1081 12s.; of which there had been expended £683 17s.; in the purchase of £200 stock, £191 10s.; and there remained a balance in hand of £206 5s. The report was adopted, and a series of resolutions in promotion of the objects of the association passed.

Free passage, either in the Government or other emigration ships, is given, with separate accommodation and a small gratuity. Communications have been made with ladies at Sydney, Port Phillip, and other places, with a view to their co-operation with this society, but answers have not yet been received from them. The report concludes by expressing every confidence in the success of the society. The balance sheet shows the total receipts of the society to have been £1150 8s. 10d., and the expenditure £744 9s. 6d., leaving a balance in hand of £405 19s. 4d. The report was adopted, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the noble chairman.

WHITELANDS TRAINING INSTITUTION FOR SCHOOLMISTRESSES.—On Wednesday a public meeting in aid of this institution was held at the Hanover-square Rooms. The Earl of Harrowby (in the chair) said that this institution was founded by the National Society in 1842, for the purpose of educating young women for mistresses of parochial and national schools; but these and other similar establishments having become too heavy a burden on the society's funds, were now thrown on their own resources, and the object of this meeting was to enlist public sympathy on behalf of the Whiteheads Institution. Since its commencement, 153 young women had completed their education, and been appointed to schools containing from 50 to 200 children each, and the clergy under whom they were working had borne the highest testimony to their conduct and qualifications: 75 young women were now in training. During the last three years the pupils had been annually examined by the Government inspectors of schools, and the committee of council had granted 78 certificates of merit. The inspectors had reported most favourably of the efficiency of the institution, but stated that the accommodation at present afforded was not sufficient for the number of the inmates. The council of Whiteheads had accordingly had plans prepared for improving the present buildings, and they had every reason to hope for a grant from Government in aid of that object. But a sum of at least £3000 would have to be raised by private contributions, and the annual subscriptions increased to £600, before the council would feel themselves warranted in carrying out their plans. The Bishops of Lichfield, St. Asaph, and Oxford, the Rev. Sir Henry Dukefield, H. Blanshard, Esq., and other clergymen and gentlemen, then addressed the meeting; and resolutions in accordance with its object having been adopted, the proceedings terminated.

BANQUET TO VISCOUNT GOUGH AT THE JUNIOR UNITED SERVICE CLUB.—The members of the Junior United Service Club gave a magnificent entertainment on Wednesday evening, at their club-house in Waterloo-place, to General Lord Viscount Gough, in celebration of the noble Lord's safe return from the scene of his arduous exploits in the East. About 120 gentlemen sat down, under the presidency of Captain Boldero, M.P., who was supported on the right by the noble and gallant guest of the day, Lord Gough, Field-Marshal the Marquis of Anglesey, K.G., and Mr. Shepherd, Chairman of the East India Company; and upon the left by his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, K.G., General Lord Viscount Hardinge, and Major-General Sir John Grey, K.C.B. Amongst the other leading officers present were Col. Sir W. Verner, M.P., Col. Sibthorp, M.P., Col. Dunne, M.P., Col. Lockyer Freestun, M.P., Col. Gough, Col. Bates, Capt. Rushout, M.P.

THE EAST INDIA COMPANY AND STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH AUSTRALIA.—A number of gentlemen interested in the Australian colonies and New Zealand, and anxious to promote communication with them by steam-vessels, have, within the last few days, had a conference with the Chairman and Deputy-Chairman of the East India Company, with a view of discussing certain objections reported to exist on the part of the directors to the carrying out of the object in question under arrangements entertained by her Majesty's Government. Among the gentlemen present were Sir W. Verner, Bart., M.P., Sir Anthony Rothschild, Bart., Mr. Scholefield, M.P., Mr. G. R. Smith, Mr. De Salis, Mr. McGregor, M.P., Mr. Aglionby, M.P., Mr. Mark Boyd, Mr. Wm. Brown, M.P., Mr. Bass, M.P., Mr. Charles D. Logan, Mr. Alexander Matheson, M.P., Mr. Tod, Mr. Blacket, Mr. Donaldson, Mr. Cummins, and Mr. Blane. The proceedings were opened by Mr. McGregor, M.P. for Glasgow, who, as the representative of a large mercantile constituency, stated the daily increasing anxiety felt by the public for the speedy realization of the object the deputation had in view; and he forcibly urged the expediency as well as the necessity of yielding those concessions which the public convenience and the welfare of our East India colonies demanded from the East India Company. Mr. McGregor was followed by several other gentlemen. The Chairman stated, that if it were a question simply concerning speedy communication with Australia, all necessity for discussion would be obviated, as not only himself, but he might say the whole court of directors, felt the most cordial desire to see that end effected. The matter, however, rested solely between her Majesty's Government and the East India Company, and there were reasons of a grave character which must induce them to pause before they surrendered to any private company the service now performed by their steam navy between Suez and Bombay. The advantage of maintaining that navy had been successfully exemplified in the late war with China, and in the more recent suppression of piracy on the coasts of Borneo and elsewhere; and the instance alluded to by Mr. Logan, of the service performed by the *Elphinstone*, was an additional argument in their favour. Sir James Weir Hog, the Deputy-Chairman, sustained in an energetic address the positions advanced by his colleague the Chairman; he attested the sincerity with which the East India Company desired to see the Australian colonies connected with their possessions in the East by means of steam-vessels, although they objected to the terms upon which it was now sought to be effected.

LORD CAMPBELL AND SPECIAL PLEADING.—Lord Campbell's bill to enable the Judges of the courts of common law at Westminster to alter the forms of pleading has just been printed. It is proposed by the bill to give power to the Judges of the superior courts to make rules or orders for altering the mode of pleading, &c., in action at law. Such rules or orders are not to be valid until three months after being laid before Parliament, and may previously be declared suspended by a Royal proclamation or by a resolution of Parliament.

ADMISSION OF ATTORNEYS IN TRINITY TERM, 1850.—The incorporated Law Society's list relative to the above subject has just been published, from which it appears that the number of gentlemen applying to be admitted to practise as attorneys in Trinity Term, 1850, is 193 (those for the present term are set down in the previous list at 172). There is also one notice of admission for the first day of the present term, to be added to the list pursuant to judge's order; the notices of admission for a like purpose for this term to be added to the list, pursuant to judges' orders, amounting to three. There are some notices of admission of the same kind for Trinity Term. The application to the court for the taking out and renewal of certificates on the last day of the present term number six; and the notice of application to a judge at chambers to take out and renew certificates on the 9th of May, are stated at fifteen—making the total number of names on the present list 224, there being in the former 226.

NEW POST-OFFICE ARRANGEMENTS.—It has at length been finally determined that the sorting duty necessary for forwarding letters through London on Sundays shall be performed in railway carriages, and that such duty shall commence on this (Saturday) night. The necessary instructions have just been issued from the General Post-office to the provincial postmasters for that purpose. All letters that can possibly be sent on to their destinations on blank days otherwise than through London, have been ordered to be sent through country offices; so that all the duties which will have to be performed in the railway carriages will be the sorting of the stamped letters which are posted in country offices, which cannot possibly reach their destinations except by passing through London.

VICTORIA DOCKS.—The Lords of the Admiralty have given their sanction to the erection of some docks on the north bank of the River Thames, opposite Woolwich, which, it is expected, will prove of benefit in clearing the river and navigation of a number of vessels now crowding it. They are to be called the "Victoria Docks."

SHOCKING ACCIDENT AT THE WENHAM LAKE ICE COMPANY'S STORES, NEAR WATERLOO-BRIDGE.—About ten o'clock on Tuesday morning, John Jane, one of the men employed to unload the ice from the barges, met with so serious an accident that his life is despaired of. The blocks of ice are this year unusually fine, some of them exceeding 500lb. in weight, and a horse is employed, by means of ropes and tackle, to raise them from the barge to a plat-

form, from which they are carted for storage to the ice-houses. The unfortunate man was employed to detach the blocks from the ice-longs on its reaching the platform; by some means, one of the blocks, on its ascent, caught the beam which crosses the barge, and the horse not being able to be stopped in time, pulled down the poles to which the tackle was fixed, and the platform, from which the poor fellow was precipitated headforemost, and fractured his skull. He was immediately conveyed in a cab to the Westminster Hospital, and, from the extent of his wounds, there was little hope of his surviving.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—The births in the metropolis during the week ending Saturday last were numbered 1473. The deaths, which in the previous week rose to 1124, were last week only 893, whereas the average derived from deaths in ten corresponding weeks of 1840-49, and raised in proportion to increased population, is 1001, and in the last three corresponding weeks, namely, those of 1847-49, the deaths rose to about 1050 and upwards. In last week, as compared with that immediately preceding, the deaths classed as having been caused by zymotic or epidemic diseases are almost exactly of the same amount; in this return there are 157, of which 7 were from small pox, 15 from measles, 18 from scarlatina, 35 from hooping cough, 4 from influenza, all of which diseases are at present less fatal than usual; there are also 37 from typhus, which is about the average; and 13 from diarrhoea, 6 from remittent fever, 6 from rheumatic fever (besides 3 from rheumatism), and 8 from erysipelas, from which diseases the mortality is rather above the average. But diseases of the respiratory organs still exhibit a small increase on the average, though compared with the mortality of this class in the previous week they show a reduction. Bronchitis, pneumonia, asthma, and other complaints affecting the organs of respiration (with the exception of hooping cough and consumption), number 174, the average being 164. Their progress during the last six weeks may be traced in the following numbers: 171, 182, 231, 252, 253, and 174; these fluctuations being nearly coincident with the rise and fall of temperature. Phthisis (or consumption) was fatal to 108 persons last week, an unusually small number: the year 1843 affords the only example of a corresponding week in which the mortality from this disease was so low; the average is about 150. On the 6th of April, in the Marylebone workhouse, a widow died, whose age is reported to have been 103 years; she sunk by "natural decay." On the 28th of March, in Ferry-street, Poplar, the daughter of a labourer, aged three years, died of privation, or, according to the return made by the coroner's jury, from "natural death, accelerated by want." Two men and two women are registered as the victims of Intemperance. In workhouses, 77 deaths were registered in the week, and in hospitals 58, of which 35 were in general hospitals, 8 in naval and military, and 8 in lunatic asylums.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.—At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.425 in. The mean daily reading of the thermometer was highest on Sunday, when it was 54.4 deg., and lowest on Saturday, when it was 46.2 deg.; the mean temperature of the week was 49.5 deg., or 5 deg. higher than the average of the same week in seven years. The mean temperature was throughout the week higher than the average, and on Sunday was higher by 9.5 deg., and on Monday by 8.5 deg.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Business in the English Funds has been very limited during the week, the prevailing tendency being towards a decline. The vacillating conduct of the Ministry, with its opposition to measures at once in accordance with liberality and justice, have formed the subject of free comment in the City. Although successful in opposing a repeal of the duties that tax knowledge and publicity, it is a question if the victory has not tended rather to increase than to lessen the Ministerial exigencies. These circumstances, coupled with a fall in French Rentes, has rendered the Consol Market weak, and easily affected. The lowest price of the week was on Tuesday, when 95½ was registered. On Monday the opening figures were 95½ for Money, and the highest quotation has been 95½ for Money, and 95½ for Account. Exchequer Bills continue in demand, as well as India Bonds. Nothing can more clearly show the low value of money than Exchequer Bills being at 70s pm., paying only 4½ per annum interest. New Three-and-a-Quarters maintain their relative value, and some large transactions in Reduced have supported the price of that stock. There was rather more firmness at the close of the week, prices quoting for Bank Stock, 206; Three per Cent. Reduced Annuities, 94½; Three per Cent. Consols Annuities, 95½; New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cent. Annuities, 96½; Long Annuities, to expire Jan., 1860, 8½; Ditto, 30 years, Oct., 1859, 8; Ditto, 30 years, Jan., 1860, 8½; India Stock, 266; India Bonds, £1000, 95 pm.; Ditto, under £1000, 95 pm.; South Sea Stock, Old Annuities, 94; Ditto, New Annuities, 95½; Three per Cent. Annuities, 175½, 95½; Consols for Account, 95½; Exchequer Bills, £1000, June, 68 pm.; £500, June, 68 pm.; Small, June, 68 pm.

As the Foreign settlement progressed on Monday, prices assumed a firmer appearance, and Peruvian, which had receded to 69, advanced to 72, which, although not fully sustained since, still leaves a strong market. Mexican advanced to 29½, and after a little flatness closed only a point lower. Buenos Ayres quoted 55 with the dividend; the later quotations are ex dividend. In Spanish the fluctuations have been merely fractional. Venezuela has advanced from 31 to 34½ 35 upon some extensive purchases. The closing quotations are—Brazilian Bonds, Small, 87½; Buenos Ayres Bonds, 6 per Cent., 53 ex d.; Danish Bonds, 1825, 5 per Cent., 95½; Ditto, Scrip, 4½ pm.; Equador Bonds, 3½; Grenada Bonds, 1½ per Cent., 10½; Mexican, 5 per Cent., 1846, ex Jan. Coupons, 29; Ditto, Account, 29½; Peruvian Bonds, 4 per Cent., Account, 71; Ditto, Deferred, 29½; Portuguese, 4 per Cent., 33½; Ditto, Account, 33½; Russian Bonds, 4½ per Cent., 94½; Ditto, Scrip, 2 pm.; Spanish, 5 per Cent., 1840, 18½; Ditto, Passive, 3½; Venezuela Bonds, 2½ per Cent., 35; Dutch, 2½ per Cent., 12 Guild., 55½; Ditto, 4 per Cent. Certificates, 85½.

A complete panic prevailed in the Share Market on Tuesday. Speculative sales had gradually reduced quotations below the margins upon which advances had been made, and bona fide sales were the result. The Market was consequently flooded with stock, which unfortunately assists the Bears in their operations. London and North-Western were done at 99½, and Great Western, at 46 47; Midland, at 29; and South-Eastern, at 12½ 13. It is also tolerably clear that a portion of the public, who buy to sell at any time when a profit can be made, are backing out of the Railway Market; and this is a class of customers not only numerous but influential. The rise in all sort of Mining Securities, Joint-Stock Bank Shares, and miscellaneous securities of all description, where little speculation exists, is a proof of this assertion. Of the wisdom of such a course there certainly exists a doubt. Railways, with all their mismanagement, have undergone a purification, that leaves in the power of any ordinary calculator an opportunity of ascertaining the amount of dividend he will receive on his outlay. To such lines as the North-Western, South-Western, Brighton, Bristol, and Exeter, &c., the above remark is particularly applicable, and other lines are daily adding to the number. Experience in the economy of working the lines, a gradual reduction in the interest on the debenture debt, increase of population, and absence of any additional competition, must, in time, make many lines safe and steadily-paying investments, although all hopes of their ever attaining speculative prices must be certainly abandoned. The market, towards the close of the week, improved, and a decided advance will be remarked in the following list:—Aberdeen, 10½; Ditto, Preference, 2 dis.; Birmingham and Oxford Junction, without guarantee, 24; Caledonian, 7½; Ditto, New £10 Preference, 5; Chester and Holyhead, Preference, 7½; Eastern Counties, 7½; Ditto, New, Preference, 6 per Cent., 11½; Ditto, Extension, No. 2, ½ p. x. d.; East Lincolnshire, guaranteed 6 per Cent., 26½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 26½; Great Northern, 5½; Ditto, ½ B, 6 per Cent., 4; Ditto, 5 per Cent. Preference, 9½ x. l.; Great South and West (Ireland), 26; Great Western, 50; Ditto, ½ Shares, 25½; Ditto, ½ Shares, 12½; Ditto, Fifties, 9½; Ditto, New, 6½; Hull and Selby Half Shares, 47; Lancaster and Carlisle Thirds, 9; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 34; New, Gu. 6 per Cent., 11; Leeds and Bradford, 9½; London and Blackwall, 31; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 79; Ditto, New, guaranteed 6 per Cent., 133½; London and North-West, 103; Ditto, New quarters, 114; Ditto, £10 (M. and B.) C, 1½; London and South-Western, 58½; Ditto, New £50, 20½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 11; Ditto, New £10 Preference, 6½; Midland, 38; Ditto, £50 Shares, 3; Ditto, Consol. Bristol and Birmingham, 6 per Cent., 119; Norfolk, 25; North British, 7½; Ditto, Preference, 4½; North Staffordshire, 74; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 6; Reading, Guildford, and Keigate, 14½; Scottish Central, 10½; South-Eastern, 13½; Sheffield, Rotherham, and Goole (N. Div.), Guaranteed 5 per Cent., 16½; Wear Valley, 6 per Cent. Guaranteed, 24½ x. d.; Wilts, Somerset, and Weymouth, 38; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 11½; Ditto, Newcastle Extension, 6½; Ditto, G.N.E. Preference, 8; York and North Midland, 14½; Ditto Preference 6½.

SATURDAY MORNING.—The English Market was buoyant yesterday, Consols touching 96 to 4, on the receipt of the French news. The last price was, however, a little lower, quoting 95½ 96 for Money and Time. Shares were also firmer, and the Foreign Securities maintained their prices.

THE MARKETS.

CORN-EXCHANGE (Friday).—A fair average quantity of English wheat—2580 quarters—has been received up to our market, this week, coastwise. Fresh up to day, by land carriage, the receipts were small. Owing, however, to the large supplies of foreign wheat and flour offering, the demand for all kinds of wheat of home produce ruled heavy, and, to have effected large sales, lower prices must have been accepted by the factors. Upwards of 15,000 quarters of foreign wheat have come in. The want of buyers has compelled the importers to land a large portion in warehouse. All kinds were dull in the extreme, and, in some instances, 1s per quarter less money was paid for inferior qualities. The quantity of English barley on show was small; but that of foreign was extensive. Malting parcels sold at full price, but grinding and distilling sorts ruled dull. Malt, the supply of which was extensive, met a very inactive demand, at barely stationary prices. Rather a larger business was doing in oats, at the late decline in value. Beans, peas, Indian corn, and flour very dull, and the turn cheaper. **ARRIVALS.**—English: wheat, 2580; barley, 1890; malt, 5670; oats, 2290; flour, 3290. Irish: oats, —; Foreign: wheat, 15,400; barley, 7590; malt, —; oats, 23,690; flour, 2500 quarters.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 35s to 40s; ditto, white, 35s to 40s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 35s to 38s; ditto, white, 38s to 40s; rye, 20s to 22s; grinding barley, 18s to 20s; distilling ditto, 22s to 24s; malting ditto, 23s to 25s; Norfolk and Lincoln malt, 4s to 4s 4s; brown ditto, 4s to 4s; Kingston and Ware, 4s to 5s; Chevalier, 5s to 5s 4s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 13s to 15s; potato ditto, 16s to 17s; Youghal and Cork, black, 12s to 14s; ditto, white, 13s to 15s; tick beans, new, 25s to 24s; ditto, old, 23s to 25s; grey peas, 23s to 24s; maple, 23s to 25s; white, 23s to 25s; boilers, 24s to 25s per quarter. Town-made flour, 34s to 38s; Suffolk, 27s to 31s; Stockton and Yorkshire, 27s to 31s per 280lbs. **Foreign.**—Danzig red wheat, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; barley, —s to —s; oats, —s to —s; beans, —s to —s; peas, —s to —s, per quarter. Flour, American, 20s to 33s per barrel; Canada, 20s to 22s per barrel.

The Seed Market.—Since our last report, so little has been doing in seeds that our quotations are almost nominal.

Linseed.—English, sowing, 54s to 56s; Baltic, crushing, 40s to 42s; Mediterranean and Odessa, 38s to 44s; Hempseed, 33s to 36s per quarter; Coriander, 16s to 25s per cwt. Brown Mustard-seed, 8s to 11s; white ditto, 10s to 10s 6d. Tares, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per bushel. English Rape-seed, 10s to 11s; ditto, foreign, 10s to 11s. **Rapeseed cake,** 21s 6d to 24s per ton. **Canary,** 9s to 10s per quarter. **English Clover-seed,** red, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s; white, —s to —s to 72s per quarter.

extra, up to —s. Foreign, red, —s to —s; extra, —s; white, —s to —s; extra, —s per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 6d to 6½d; of household 8d, 4½ to 4¾ per 4½ loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 38s 6d; barley, 22s 11d; oats, 15s 3d; rye, 70s 8d; beans, 25s 9d; peas, 26s 3d.

The 5½ Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 38s 1d; barley, 23s 5d; oats, 15s 1d; rye, 22s 2d; beans, 25s 9d; peas, 25s 3d.

Duties on Foreign Corn.—Wheat, 1s 0½; barley, 1s 0½; oats, 1s 0½; rye, 1s 0½; beans, 1s 0½; peas, 1s 0½.

Tea.—For all kinds of tea—black as well as green—the demand is extremely inactive in the private contract market, at reduced prices. Common sound congou is selling at 9½ to 9½ per lb. Public sales of 14,000 packages took place on Wednesday and Thursday. About 4000 add, at a decline in the value of fine gunpowder of 1d per lb.

Sugar.—A moderate business has been doing in raw sugars, this week, at about stationary prices. Refined goods, the supply of which is not large, are a shade lower. Brown lump, 48s to 49s 6d; and good to fair grocery, 49s to 50s 6d per cwt.

Coffee.—About 1000 bags good old native Ceylons have sold this week, at 47s 6d to 48s per cwt. In other kinds of coffee very little is doing.

Rice.—The importers having submitted to lower prices, a good business has been transacted.

Provisions.—The demand for foreign butter is tolerably firm, at about last week's quotations. Fine Friesland, Holstein, and Kiel, 78s to 82s; fine Holland 70s to 75s; fine Zwoili, 70s to 74s; and inferior and surplus, 52s per cwt, and upwards. We have a moderate inquiry for fine Irish butter, at full rates of currency, but the inferior brands are 1s to 2s per cwt lower, although the stock is unusually small. Channel, 72s to 74s; Cork, 70s to 76s; and Limerick, 64s to 68s per cwt. For forward delivery, next to nothing is doing. English butter moves off slowly, at barely late rates. Fine new milk Dorset, 84s to 88s; middling and good, 70s to 80s per cwt; fresh, 7s to 11s per dozen lbs. Small Irish bacon is in good request, at full prices. Prime Waterford, landed, 46s to 48s; heavy, 43s to 45s; Limerick, 44s to 46s per cwt. Prime hams, 10s to 11s, and barrelled, 10s to 11s.

Tallow.—P. M. G. on the spot, is sold at 35s 9½ to 37s; and for forward delivery, 35s 3d per cwt. Town tallow, 35s per cwt, net cash; rough fat, 2s 8d per lb.

Oils.—For all kinds the demand is very inactive; in prices, however, we have no change to notice.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £1 8s to £1 14s; clover ditto, £3 0s to £4 10s; and straw, £1 1s to £1 2s per load.

Spirits.—Very little is doing in brandy, the stock of which is still on the increase, at barely late rates. Fine Jamaica rum is firm, and quite as dear. Otherwise the market is heavy.

Wool.—The imports of both foreign and colonial being on the increase, a good assortment may be expected at the next auctions, which will take place in May. English wools have declined 1d to 1½ per lb.

Potatoes.—Picked samples are in good request, at from 100s to 120s per ton. The inferior kinds move off heavily, at from 40s to 70s per ton. Since the 1st of August, 1849, nearly 80,000 tons of foreign potatoes have arrived in the port of London.

Coal (Friday).—Lambton, 17s; Hetton, 16s 6d; Stewart's, 17s 6d; Whitworth, 16s; Tees, 17s 6d; and Hartley, 15s 3d per ton.

Hides (Friday).—A few parcels of cow hides, of last year's growth, have been disposed of, at full prices. In all other kinds the supply of which is very moderate—next to nothing is doing.

New Mid and East Kent pockets, £6 0s to £10 8s; New Weald of Kent ditto, £6 0s to £8 8s; New Sussex ditto, £5 5s to £6 10s; New Farnham, £12 0s to £13 0s; Yearling Kents, £3 8s to £4 10s; Yearling Sussex, £2 8s to £3 12s; old hops, £1 0s to £3 5s per cwt.

Smithfield (Friday).—Our market to-day was very scantily supplied with beasts, the time of year considered, both as to number and quality. As the attendance of buyers was small, the beef trade ruled inactive, at prices barely equal to those realised on Monday, and a clearance was with difficulty effected. With sheep we were scantily supplied; all breeds moved off steadily, and late rates were well supported. The prime old Downs in the wool sold at from 4s 2½ to 4s 4d per 8lb. Lambs, the number of which was but moderate, sold slowly, on somewhat easier terms. From the Isle of Wight 200 head reached us. The veal trade ruled heavy at our quotations. In pigs next to nothing doing. Milch cows sold at from £14 to £15 each, including their small calf.

Per lb to sink the offals:—Course and inferior beasts, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; second quality ditto, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; prime large oxen, 3s 0d to 3s 2½; prime Steaks, 8s, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; coarse and inferior sheep, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; second quality ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; large coarse calves, 3s 0d to 3s 4d; prime small calves, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; prime South Downs, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; large coarse calves, 3s 8d to 4s 0d; prime small ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; large hogs, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; neat small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s 0d; lambs, 4s 8d to 5s 8d. Suckling calves, 18s to 25s; and quarter old store pigs, 16s to 25s each. Total supplies: Beasts, 610; cows, 112; sheep and lambs, 2500; calves, 210; pigs, 310. Foreign supplies: Beasts, 190; sheep, 300; calves, 110. Scotch: beasts, 150; sheep, 70.

Vegetable and Leadhall (Friday).—These markets were but moderately supplied to-day. The general demand ruled steady, at full prices:—

Per lb by the carcass:—Inferior beef, 2s 0d to 2s 4d; middling ditto, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; prime large ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; prime small ditto, 3s 0d to 3s 4d; large pork, 2s 10d to 3s 4d; inferior ditto, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; middling ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; prime ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; veal, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; small pork, 3s 6d to 4s 0d; lamb, 4s 6d to 5s 6d.

ROBERT HERRBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16.

DOWLING-STREET, APRIL 16.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Jacobus Johannes Le Sueur, Esq., now Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate for the district of Swellendam, at the Cape of Good Hope, to be Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate for the district of Worcester, in this colony; and Richard Southey, Esq., to be Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate for the said district of Swellendam.

Her Majesty has also been pleased to appoint James Davis, Esq., to be Colonial Surgeon to her Majesty's Forts and Settlements on the Gold Coast.

PRIZE MONEY.

Notice is hereby given to the officers and crew of her Majesty's ship *Penelope*, that on the 1st of May they will be paid at 41, Norfolk-street, Strand, their proportion of the tonnage bounty for the Brazilian schooner *Theresa*, captured 22nd of June, 1848, together with a moiety of the proceeds of the said schooner, and the shares will be afterwards recalled agreeably to act of Parliament.

BANKRUPTCY SUPSEDED.

J. HOWARD, Leeds, Yorkshire, cloth merchant.

BANKRUPTS.

E. HOLLE and J. WONFOR, Battersea, Surrey, manufacturing chemists. T. COLLINGWOOD, Abingdon, Berkshire, butcher. G. WILLIAMS, Woolwich, Kent, builder. W. J. A. IVE, London-green, Kent, shipbuilder. J. DONOVAN, Oxford-street, fishmonger. C. J. HUBBARD, Crutched-friars, hop-merchant. D. T. JOHNSON and CO., Aldersbury Church-yard, Watlington-street, wholesale tea-dealers. J. ARUNDELL, Titchfield-street, Southampton, common brewer. R. DEAN, Church-street, Trinity-square, Southwark, builder. B. S. SAUNDERS, Stawell, Somersetshire, quarryman. M. D. ROBINSON, Dudley, Worcestershire, confectioner. A. BROWN and W. TODD, Liverpool, provision merchants. D. H. BERSFORD, Stockport, Cheshire, linen-draper. G. A. VON DOMER, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

P. MONTGOMERY, Port Glasgow, merchant. A. MACCOLM, Kirkcaldy, wood merchant. W. TOFTS and R. TOFTS, printers, Carrubber's-close, High-street, Edinburgh.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19.

LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE, APRIL 19.

The Rev. Lord Wriothley Russell has been appointed, by the Queen's command, one of the Deputy Clerks of the Closet to her Majesty, in the room of the late Dean of Hereford.

WHITEHALL, APRIL 17.

The Queen has been pleased to grant to the Rev. Henry Parr Hamilton, M.A., the Dignity of her Majesty's cathedral church of Sarum, the same being void by the death of the Very Rev. Peter Henry, late Dean of Sarum.

NEW MUSIC.

LONDON: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by WILLIAM LITTLE, 198, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1850.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS SUPPLEMENT.

SUPPLEMENT TO No 422.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1850.

[GRATIS.]

HUSYN-ABDAL, IN THE PUNJAB.

The charming scene engraved at the foot of the page lies near the east bank of the Indus, and is so called from containing the tomb of a Mahometan saint of that name.

It is situated in a delightful valley, watered by springs which gush from amongst the rocks—Burnes states, "some hundred springs;" Von Hügel, three. This last writer denies that the place is a valley; he also reproves Moore and Hamilton for giving too flattering a description of it; but it is not to be forgotten that the

glorious Akbar expressed the feelings excited in his mind on viewing the spot by exclaiming "Wah!" the usual interjection of admiration; hence the ruined garden is so named. Elphinstone styles it a valley; and the authorities to which we have referred, and even the Baron himself subsequently, are warm in their praises of the beauty of the place.

Husyn-Abdal is on the high-road from Lahore to Attock. It is thus mentioned by Mr. Moore, in his exquisite Oriental romance "Lalla Rookh:"—

"They were now not far from that forbidden river (the Attock) beyond which no pure Hindoo can pass, and were reposing for a time in the rich valley of Husyn Abdal, which had always been a favourite resting-place of the Emperors in their annual migrations to Cashmere. Here often had the Light of the Faith, Jehanguir, wandered with his beloved and beautiful Nourmahal; and here would Lalla Rookh have been happy to remain for ever, giving up the throne of Bucharia and the world for Feramorz and love in this sweet lonely valley. The time was now fast approaching when she must see him no longer—or see him with eyes whose every look belonged to another; and there was a melancholy preciousness in these last moments which made her heart cling to them as it would to life. During the latter part of the journey, indeed, she had sunk into a deep sadness, from which nothing but the presence of the young minstrel could awake her. Like those lamps in tombs, which only light up when the air is admitted, it was only at his approach that her eyes became smiling and animated. But here, in this dear valley, every moment was an age of pleasure; he saw him all day, and was, therefore, all day happy—resembling, she often thought, that people of Zinge, who attribute the unfading cheerfulness they enjoy to one genial star that rises nightly over their heads (the star Soheil, or Canopus)."

"The whole party, indeed, seemed in their liveliest mood during the few days they passed in this delightful solitude. The young attendants of the Princess, who were here allowed a freer range than they could safely be indulged with in a less sequestered place, ran wild among the gardens, and bounded through the meadows lightly as young roes over the aromatic plains of Tibet. While Fad-ladeen, beside the spiritual comfort he derived from a pilgrimage to the tomb of the Saint from whom the valley is named, had opportunities of gratifying, in a small way, his taste for victims, by putting to death some hundreds of those unfortunate little lizards, which all pious Mussulmans make it a point to kill; taking for granted, that the manner in which the creature hangs its head is meant as a mimicry of the attitude in which the faithful say their prayers!"

In the first illustration, the Artist has portrayed a party of Native Troops in Camp.

PRIZES FOR THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF 1851.

THE question of Prizes in the several classes of products at the Great Exposition of 1851 is a much more serious one than either the Society of Arts or the Royal Commissioners seem to think. At a first glance it is natural to suppose that prizes of some sort, and especially large money prizes, would be the surest attraction to exhibitors; that if twenty or thirty thousand pounds were to be given in absolute money prizes, it would afford the highest inducement both to Englishmen and foreigners to exercise the utmost enterprise, skill, ingenuity, and fertility of design in preparation for the Exhibition. The very contrary, however, is the fact; and, paradoxical as the assertion may seem, it is, nevertheless, perfectly certain that large money prizes would prevent the leading manufacturers of each class of goods from exhibiting at all; and it is even questionable whether prizes of any kind will not, to a considerable extent, have the same effect. The true prize is the lead of the market. All manufacturers of articles of taste, fashion, luxury, and even of common use, spare no amount of exertion and expense, to get the run of a season. In prints, silks, laces, shawls, ribbons, stuffs, or woollens, one such run of success would be of infinitely more value than the highest prize the Exposition could possibly afford. It would be a heavy loss to manufacturers, if they must turn from their regular trade to produce something purposely for the Exhibition; and, though standing deservedly high, if they exhibited merely the articles of their ordinary production, they might have the prize given against them, to some one who had produced especially for the Exhibition, and who, though absolutely inferior to them in the market, would, for a time, get the trade through the



THE PUNJAB.—NATIVE TROOPS IN CAMP.



HUSYN-ABDAL, IN THE PUNJAB.—FROM A SKETCH BY G. T. VIGNE ESQ

prestige of being a prize-holder. But, if there were no prizes, the Exhibition would have the character of a vast show-room. To exhibit would be an advertisement. Manufacturers of high standing would use the utmost exertion consistent with the ordinary progress of their business to keep their position in public opinion. They would not allow those behind them in the trade to have the show-room to themselves. But to no other judgment than that of their constant customers—the whole buying public, whether as traders or consumers—will they be content to submit any decision upon the excellence of their manufactures—the fruit, it may be, of years of effort, immense expenditure of capital, and diligent study of the public taste. Such position they will not risk upon the decision of any juries, however chosen. If we were beginners in manufacturing, with but a narrow market, there might be some use in prizes “for increased usefulness, permanency in dyes, improved forms and arrangements in articles of utility; superior quality or superior skill in workmanship; new use of known materials; new combinations of materials; beauty of design in form or colour, or both; and cheapness and excellence of production.” But, as we stand—competitors with all nations, in all the markets of the world, and with ports open upon equal terms to them all, prizes are quite a needless bone of contention, likely enough to give rise to ill-will and jealousies, both amongst Englishmen and between Englishmen and foreigners, but in no valid way to promote the completeness of the Exposition. The League Bazaar, held in Covent Garden Theatre in 1844 was, to a certain extent, an exposition of manufactures; so far from there being any prizes, the goods were gifts; and yet manufacturers thought it worth while to produce purposely for the bazaar. It was an opportunity not to be lost, of shewing the public what they could do. One table-knife manufacturer at Sheffield gave some attention for several months to selecting the most beautiful pieces of mother-of-pearl for the handles of a set of table-knives; another, with the like care, selected the choicest ivories and the most curiously-grained pieces of wood for the box. Britannia metal workers, makers of plated wares, electro-plate, and plate, also sent specimens of rare designs and superior excellence. Razor, scissor, pen-knife, tool, fender, stove and grate makers, all contributed articles of the best patterns and highest finish: even the file-cutters took a pride in showing their skill, by producing elaborate designs of Wentworth House and Windsor Castle in the cutting of the file; and one firm famous for their tools made in exact accordance with the native models of almost every civilised, semi-barbarous, and savage people upon the face of the globe, sent a bar of iron, one end of which was in the first rough state in which it comes from the smelting furnace, and which showed consecutively the condition to which, for every purpose of tools and cutlery, it was brought by machinery or manual labour on to the most beautifully wrought burnished razor, which completed the series of the bar—an exposition in itself complete of the progress of iron from the ore to the keenest blade of most highly-tempered steel; and with the like spirit the manufacturers of Bradford and Halifax produced patterns of stuffs and carpets especially for the occasion; whatever they knew how to do in the way of design, or dye, or finish, they did, though there were no prizes. Galashells made tartans of new design and especial fineness, for the occasion. One manufacturer at Paisley expended a thousand pounds in setting up a loom for the manufacture of a new description of shawl; there was no prize to be gained but the public approval—to be expressed neither by medal nor money, nor decision of any jury, but simply by orders for the shawl. We might multiply instances as to Nottingham, Leicester, and Derby, with lace and hosiery; Manchester, with prints; Coventry, with ribbons and watches; Dunfermline and Belfast, with damasks; Birmingham, with lamps, glass, and papier maché; Staffordshire and Worcester, with porcelain; Colebrookdale, porcelain, iron, and ornamental castings; Crayford (Kent) and Norwich, with shawls; Clerkenwell, with watches; Durham, Glasgow, Kildermister, and Axminster, with carpets; the North and West, with broad-cloths; and so on through the whole round of the busy industry of England: from chain cables to carriages, something of almost every thing was sent, and the effort after excellence was general, although there were no prizes but the chances of attracting attention and gaining a market. No one can doubt that this consideration would have tenfold importance with reference to the Exposition of the world's industry in 1851. There will be the new element of international emulation. We are, therefore, strongly of opinion that the Commissioners would act wisely to give up the idea of prizes, and to substitute some beautifully designed memorial to be presented to every exhibitor, as a testimonial of his having contributed to the excellence and completeness of the display, and for the design of this memorial let there be some large premium given. But if it be resolved to adhere to the system of prizes, at least let them have some variety and be of some artistic device, having appropriateness to the class of article for which they are given. We are not a medal-wearing people; medals to be thrown by in a case are useless. If prizes are to be given, there is ample field for the exercise of artistic taste in their designs. But the premiums for these designs, if real artists are expected to work upon them, must be at least five times the sum offered by the Royal Commissioners for the reverses of their medals.

NEW SOUNDING-LINE.

THE earliest means employed for ascertaining the depth of the sea was a leaden weight attached to a line. This primitive system was in use for ages; but, of late years, apparatus of improved construction has been devised for the purpose in Great Britain. To show to what extent the uncertainties of the common sounding-lead have been provided for in this country, we may mention that it being sometimes difficult to ascertain the precise moment when the lead strikes the bottom, to meet this inconvenience, an electro sounding apparatus has been invented by Mr. Bain, for the instantaneous communication of the desired effect. There has been lately deposited in the Naval Museum of the Louvre, at Paris, the model of an ingenious Sounding Apparatus, invented by M. Le Coëntre, an employé of the Minister of Marine, who in 1841 commenced a series of experiments on board the *Africaine* frigate for testing the accuracy of his invention, which the several reports of the officers concur in stating to be complete.

This new Sounding-Line consists of a hollow truncated cone, of copper bronze, 19½ inches in height, about 6 inches in diameter at the base, and 2 inches at the summit. The metal is very thick, and upon one of the sides is placed a strip of glass, enabling the observer to read the scale, which is 11½ inches in length. An endless screw, which is the axis of the cone, acts upon an index, or traverser. This screw passes through the upper part of the cone; and to the protruding portion, or shoulder, are attached two little wings, or fins, perpendicular to each other. Their inclination varies according as it is desired to obtain more or fewer divisions of the scale; i.e. to ascertain the depth in metres or fathoms. The little wings are protected by a pierce-d dome, immediately above which is a ring for the reception of the Sounding-Line. To the bottom of the cone is attached a cylinder of lead, of sufficient weight to carry it through the water. This lead is concave at the base, and is filled with grease, in order that the nature of the bottom may be ascertained from the portions which adhere to it. When the apparatus is cast into the sea, the resistance offered by the water from below upwards causes the little wings to open, and, from their vertical position, to revolve. The screw, of course, obeys the movement, and the index quits the Zero point, and travels down the scale. As soon as the lead touches the bottom, all motion ceases, the instrument is drawn on board, and its result read off.

M. Le Coëntre's apparatus has been tried upon known soundings, and its results found to be accurate. It is considered by French naval men as being especially valuable, since it enables soundings to be taken either from steamers or sailing-vessels without decreasing the speed of the ship as on the old plan, and, in fact, while going at the rate of eight or nine knots an hour, and in any weather, even sub-marine currents not operating prejudicially to its effective working.

Respecting the value of this instrument in navigation, and the ingenuity manifested in its construction, there cannot be two opinions; but the following statement of some eighteen years since proves that M. Le Coëntre has been anticipated, at least, in an important portion of his invention.

In the *Nautical Magazine*, 1832, is described and figured a machine invented by a Correspondent, which differs from that by Mr. Massey, in not requiring the assistance of a line; but which, in various experiments, was found to give the depth of water precisely as that by the measured line. The parts of this machine are a vane and flies, connected by two screws with a perpetual screw, working wheels of different diameters, similar to Massey's; to which are suspended a float glass globe, a catch with shoulders, and claps disengaged by arms connected with a rod sunk by a leaden weight, and terminating with a foot, in case of oozy bottom. When the weight is disengaged from the rest of the machine, by the opening of the claps, caused by the rod striking the bottom, it will remain there, and the globe will carry the other part to the surface.

We add a few details of other sounding apparatus. In 1839, Professor C. Bonneycastle, of the University of Virginia, made some ingenious experiments to ascertain the depth of the sea by the echo of gunpowder fired under it, measured by an instrument capable of indicating the 60th part of a second; but the experiments were unsuccessful.

In 1844, M. Laugel, of Paris, invented a new apparatus, in which the line was made to fall by the progress of the vessel, on the same principle, in the inverse way, as a kite rises by the apparent action of drawing it towards the holder of the string. A disc of wood, to which the lead is attached, is made, by the action of the apparatus, in the resistance that it sustains, to plunge towards the bottom.

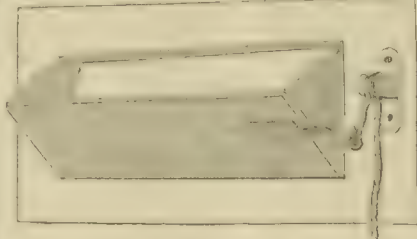
Sir James C. Ross details some enormous soundings made by him at sea; one 5100 fms, 500 miles west of St. Helena, extended to the depth of 5000 fathoms, or

30,000 feet, the weight employed amounting to 450 lb. Another, made in lat 33° 5', and long. 9° W., about 300 miles west of the Cape of Good Hope, occupied 49½ minutes, in which time 2226 fathoms were sounded. These facts are thought to disprove the common opinion, that soundings could not be obtained at very great depths.

SHERINGHAM'S VENTILATING VALVE.

MR. SHERINGHAM, the inventor of this new means for supplying rooms with fresh air, states that Dr. Arnott's ventilating valve, and the others upon that principle, are beneficial when a fire is used in the lower part of the chimney flue in which those valves are introduced, and where there is consequently a strong upward current of air rarefied by the heat from below; but where there is a down draft by that flue, as in the case, for example, of what is called a “smoky chimney,” they are, during the continuance of the downward draft, entirely inoperative; and it is apprehended that Dr. Chowne's plan is not free from the same objection. All those plans, therefore, are inoperative when a ventilator is much wanted. Dr. Arnott's valves and Dr. Chowne's syphon are not constructed for the admission of external air, but their proposed action contemplates the requisite supply of unventilated air for the support of life, and other combustion, by drafts through the fortuitous cracks and crevices afforded by the imperfect fittings of our dwelling-rooms, or otherwise by open doors or windows. It is the design of Mr. Sheringham's invention, that all the advantages of due ventilation shall be afforded without the agency of any such objectionable or adventitious drafts.

Arrangements such as are sometimes introduced in the windows of churches resemble in some respects, it is conceded, the plan contrived by Mr. Sheringham, but they fail to satisfy the requirements of position, direction, cheapness, and



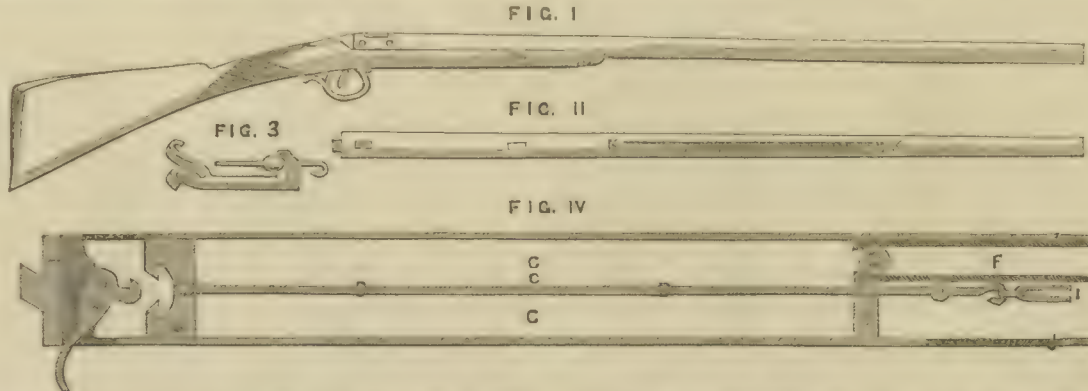
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SHAW'S PATENT INDIA-RUBBER AIR-GUN.

THIS invention, which presents a singular combination of the elastic powers of vulcanised India-rubber and air, has been invented and patented by Mr. John Shaw, of Glossop, musical instrument-maker. It will doubtless be gladly welcomed by the lovers of ball-shooting, as enabling them to enjoy their favourite diversion at a fractional part of its former cost. Without any previous pumping, the requisite pressure of air for one discharge is procured instantly at the pull of



piston-rod and bead, with a portion of the india-rubber hereinafter described, and in the state in which they appear after one discharge, and prior to preparation for another. FIG. IV. represents, on a larger scale, a longitudinal section of about one half of the breech end of the Gun unstocked: A is the trigger; B, the piston; C, C, the inside of the pump barrel or condensing syringe; D, the piston-rod; E, the pump top, perforated in the centre for the piston-rod to work through, and at the top edge for the reception of the end of the shot barrel; F, is the bullet, held in its present situation by a slight contraction of that end of the shot barrel. It is one end of the India-rubber spring, attached to the hooked end of the piston-rod, and similarly attached by its other end to a hook in the inside of the muzzle-end of case; G, G are portions of the case, enclosing the shot-barrel and India-rubber, the lower shaded part being one end of the slot (K K, FIG. IV.) The section, FIG. IV., shows the Gun in act of discharge; the

susceptibility of general adaptation, without discomfort or defacement of internal decoration, which the exigencies of the case, under its various aspects, demand.

The ventilator contrived by Mr. Sheringham is as follows:—A flap, with quadrant ends at right angles to it, is constructed to fit into a frame in the form of a parallelogram: to each lower corner of the flap is a pin, which pins work in corresponding sockets at the lower corners of the opening of the frame. The flap, by mechanical arrangements, is susceptible of being thrown outward to an angle of about sixty degrees, or pulled up to any less angle, or the opening may be entirely closed by the flap, when it is desired to do so: one line for the regulation of all the above operations is brought within reach of the hand.

The flap proposed for a room about ten feet square is about nine inches long, by about three inches deep, working in a suitable frame.

A perforation is to be made in an external wall, fully as large as the ventilator, the upper part of which should be from four to eight inches below the ceiling of the apartment to be ventilated. Mr. Sheringham's Ventilator may then be fixed in the opening from within, so that the flap of the ventilator, when pulled into the frame, may be on the same plane as the inner surface of the wall. The whole face of the ventilator may be papered or painted in the same manner as the piece of wall which is removed for its introduction, but so that the flap may fall freely within the room, whenever an inlet of air is desired. If the dimensions or nature of the interior to be ventilated requires a larger opening than can be externally closed by an air brick, or if the position of the building to be ventilated appears to demand an especial provision against the entrance of soot or other noxious substance in the atmosphere, an iron frame, covered with perforated zinc, or gauze wire of adequate fineness, may be substituted for the air brick. The size and number of the ventilators will be regulated by circumstances.

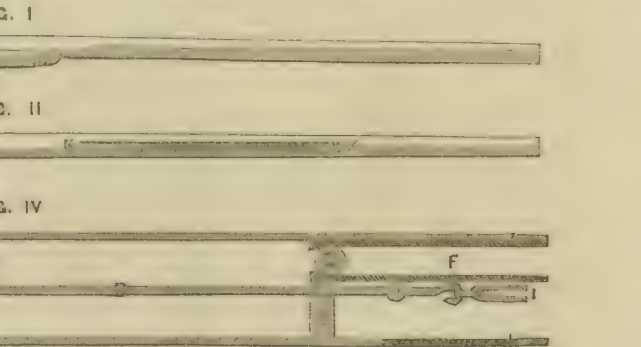
It will be found that the oblique direction which is given to the flap of the ventilator, when opened, will induce an upward direction to the in-coming current of air admitted by it, and that this upward direction will be retained a sufficient length of time to enable it to become warmed, and dispersed through the warmer air within the apartment before it reaches the occupants; and hence there will be removed from such in-coming current of air, in sufficient time, all the injurious tendencies of a cold current of air frequently, and frequently severely, felt from an open window.

Mr. Sheringham's Ventilator may be left open in temperate weather, day and night, in reception-rooms, dormitories, and other internal structures, not only with perfect impunity, but with great comfort and advantage to health. We can, from experience, recommend this improvement.

Mr. Sheringham's Ventilator, which is registered, is manufactured only by Messrs. Hayward, 196, Blackfriars-road.

the trigger, by a single stroke of a condensing syringe, actuated by a previously extended India-rubber spring. There is no separate pump, no reservoir of condensed air, nor valve of any kind. The whole apparatus is enclosed in a case, which, being stocked, has the appearance of a light and elegant fowling-piece without a lock. The invention possesses several advantages over the ordinary air-gun, one of which is its superior safety, owing to the absence of a large reservoir of highly condensed air, and to the extreme simplicity of its mechanism.

FIG. I. represents the Gun complete. FIG. II. is an underneath view of the Gun unstocked, showing a slot (K K) in the case, through which are visible the



trigger being just pulled, releases the piston, which, by the reactive power of the India-rubber spring, rushes to the opposite end of the syringe, condensing the air therein, and which condensed air forcibly ejects the bullet.

To prepare the Gun for discharge, the ball, if the barrel be a rifled one, must first be rammed down; an adapted hook must then be introduced into the slot (K K), between the bead (H, FIG. IV.) and the hooked end of the piston-rod, as plainly indicated by FIG. III. The butt-end of the Gun must then be placed against the top part of the thigh, and the hook pulled with both hands, in the direction of the breech, until the trigger, by means of the small spring at its back, catches the piston. With a smooth or unrifled barrel, 400 discharges per hour can be made; the bullet in that case requiring no ramming, it being drawn down the barrel by the partial vacuum caused by drawing down the piston. The spring consists of from sixteen to eighteen India-rubber bands.

MR. SHEPHERD'S INVENTIONS.

WE visited on Tuesday the Mechanical Inventions of Mr. Shepherd, 15, Parliament-street, who has now on exhibition some models of a new method of opening and closing gates, doors, windows, and shutters, which is certainly recommended by the facility and convenience of its action. It is, indeed, remarkably simple and effective. The doors, &c. open by the mere turn of a handle; and the arrangement is such as to add beauty to the apartment in which it may be adopted; as, when open, there is no appearance of doors, and two rooms may thus be converted into one. The invention is commended by some high authorities; and the inventor's testimonials include those of sovereigns, nobles, statesmen, engineers, architects, and persons of all classes. It is thus that the caterer for the useful is duly honoured; and the utility of Mr. Shepherd's mode must be especially apparent for railways, warehouses, and places where large gates are required; and there can be no doubt that it will be generally adopted.

IRON HOTEL FOR PORT NATAL.

MR. WALKER, of Gracechurch-street, has contracted for shipment to Port Natal, in a few days, of a spacious Hotel, of corrugated iron, one of the largest structures yet manufactured of this material. It has a frontage of 78 feet; the depth is 60 feet; and it contains twenty large rooms. The hall is 10 feet wide, 60 feet long, and 25 feet high. To the right is a club-room, 41 feet long, and 24 feet wide, which can be divided by folding-doors into two rooms. Behind this room are the three kitchens, 12 feet by 14 feet. To the left of the hall are the bar, bar-parlour, sitting-room for the family, and bed-rooms; also, bed-rooms for the visitors: in all, fifteen rooms. At the extreme front of the building is attached the tap-house, a building 40 feet long, and 20 feet wide; behind which are two wash-houses. The whole will be completely floored and ceiled when at Port Natal.

This building is very complete and compact in its arrangements, and has occupied a large gang of men some months in erecting.

THE MURDER OF THE COUNTESS GORLITZ.—This deeply interesting trial, at Darmstadt (Germany), which occupied the unusual term of thirty-four days, was concluded on the 11th instant. It is scarcely possible to describe the intense anxiety with which the decision of the jury was looked for. The foreman of the jury, in answer to the several indictments, declared that the footman of the Count, Johannes Stauff, was guilty of the murder, of subsequently setting the dwelling on fire, of carrying off a quantity of the Countess's jewels, and afterwards attempting to kill the Count by putting poison into his food. The President sentenced Johannes Stauff to imprisonment for life, with payment of five-sixths of the costs. His father, Henry Stauff, was sentenced to six months', and his brother, Jacob, Stauff, for three months' imprisonment for being abettors, and concealing the stolen property. The jewels were to be given up to the Count.

THE CONVICT HULK ESTABLISHMENT.—It appears by the annual reports of the manager of the convict hulk establishment for the years 1843 and 1849, just printed by order of the House of Commons, that the establishment consisted in the May of that year of five hulks, capable of accommodating 1730 able-bodied prisoners for employment in the public works. The prisoners were distributed as follows:—York hulk, Portsmouth Harbour, 450; *Starling Castle*, ditto, 450; *Warrior*, Woolwich Dockyard, 450; *Hebe* and *Wye*, Woolwich Arsenal, 400. The daily average number on board was 1750, but was still insufficient to supply all the convict labour required in the dockyard and arsenal. The total expense of the establishment in 1848 was £38,795 10s. 11d. The average number of convicts on board in 1849 was 1657; and the estimated value of their labour amounted to £17,891.

LAW OF PUBLIC MEETINGS IN SCOTLAND.—At the Edinburgh Police Court, last week, W. C. Sleight, Esq., barrister, London, and Mr. Russell, Edinburgh, were charged by the Lord Provost with a breach of the peace, in having moved and seconded an amendment at a meeting called to oppose the Marriage Affinity Bill, of which he was chairman. The evidence showed that the noise was on the side of the prosecution; but, for speaking without the consent of the chairman, Mr. Sleight was fined two guineas, and Mr. Russell one guinea, and both ordered to find sureties for six months.

At London (Court of Sessions), on Saturday, a young man, who had been out on the premises of Mr. C. Money. It was discovered about nine o'clock, assistance being at hand, it was extinguished without doing any further damage than burning a large stack of haulm. This is the third attempt near that place within a few weeks.

USE OF THE EAGLE DESK IN CHURCHES.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

I SEE that one of your querists desires to be informed the “origin of the use of the eagle as a reading-desk, and the date of its first introduction?” The last question cannot, I believe, be answered with any degree of certainty. A desk very similar to the lectern is represented in one of the Illuminations of the Benedictional of St. Ethelwold, an Anglo-Saxon MS. of the latter part of the tenth century, in the possession of the Duke of Devonshire; and we have examples of the use of the lectern as a desk in churches as early as the reign of King John. There is one of great antiquity in Crowle Church, Worcestershire; another is preserved in the Abbey-house of Wenlock; and a third in the ancient church of Ramsey, Huntingdonshire. Now, as to the first branch of the question:—From Du Cange, and other authorities, it would seem that their use is of very ancient origin, and that some lecterns were made in the form of an eagle to designate St. John the Evangelist, whose symbol the eagle is. That noble bird afforded a type of the strength and activity required from those who would carry the glad tidings of salvation among mankind; and the shape of an eagle is thought to have been adopted not merely to designate St. John, but as symbolizing the Angel flying through the heavens bearing the mission of the Gospel. On the lectern the Epistle and Gospel were recited, and certain commemorative offices were performed; and in the Church of England, after the Reformation, the Lessons, or portions of Scripture appointed to be used during the celebration of Divine service, were read to the people from the lectern, which was frequently in the shape of an eagle, or surmounted by it. Before the great Reformation, most of our parochial churches possessed their own eagle desk or lectern, generally made of wood; but these beautiful ornaments were obnoxious to the reforming zealots and church spoilers in the civil wars, and few escaped. In 1643, when the martial reformers came to destroy the ornaments of Peterborough Cathedral, they found “the great bible lying upon a brass eagle for reading the Lessons.” (Gentleman's Church of Peterborough, 334.)

In the 9th Article of the Ancient Rules and Monuments of the Monastic Church of Durham, as they existed before the Reformation, written in 1200, we read:—“At the north end of the high altar there was a goodly fine lectern of brass, where they used the Epistle and Gospel, with a great pulpit on the height of it, by which the priest read out of his book to feed his young ones, and her husband and maid, whereon lay the book. Also there was, lower down in the choir, another lectern of brass, with an eagle on the height of it, and her wings spread abroad, whereon the priests laid their books when they sang their lessons at matins or other times of service.” Bishop Cosin gave “a fair carved lectern” to his cathedral at Durham. (Gentleman's Church of Durham, 334.)

King's College, Cambridge, has a lectern of brass, which is perhaps the most beautiful in England; another is in the cathedral church of Wells; one of early English date in the church of Bury, Hunts; a fine eagle in St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol; another in the Church of the Holy Trinity, at Coventry; but its unnumbered instances in churches and chapels are too numerous to mention. There are instances in which ancient wooden lecterns were used in some parts of the Reformation for the reading of the Bible at which the prayers were read. But the correct lectern of brass is for reading the Lessons. Many, upon ancient models, in wood and in brass have been presented to different parish churches within the last few years; and it is to be wished that this appropriate and decorous ornament could be so generally restored to our churches.

Noted in the Tyne.

W. S. G.

A curious incident took place a few days ago at Morphington, in Prussia, which has not only a good proof of the accuracy of a personal library is respected there. A sentry on the ramparts, having perceived an individual, dressed in a sketchy manner, and the general appearance was not that of a soldier, sketches of fortifications—of which every military schoolboy has done a dozen plans—were found upon his person; and what was still more criminal, an Austrian passport. He was carried off prisoner to the citadel, and there retained until application was made to Berlin, to know what was to be done with the dangerous spy, who turned out to be a young officer of rank travelling for his amusement and instruction. The reply was, that he might be set at liberty, with an admonition to beware how he extended his studies to Prussian bastions and ravelines. It was afterwards ascertained that the delinquent was his Royal Highness Duke Eugene Augustus of Württemberg, twenty-two years of age, son of Duke Frederick Eugene the well-known Russian general.

LITERATURE.

FARMING ESSAYS. SECOND SERIES. By HEWITT DAVIS. A. Redford and Sons London-road, Southwark.

Never did agriculture so much engage as now the attention of public writers; and if it were fully established that much writing on a given subject is the surest and best method of improving it, we should at once conclude that agriculture was certain to make a most rapid progress, and to be the most successful and profitable of all occupations. This principle, however, may be doubted; and in the particular case of agriculture it happens, as Mr. Hewitt Davis remarks, and as we believe he has proved in his own person and practice, that "nothing like unanimity prevails, even as to what may be termed first principles in farming, but that, on the contrary, opposing opinions exist on the most important points of husbandry." For twelve or fourteen years Mr. Davis has sedulously inculcated the advantages of thin sowing; but we gather from No. 44, in the present collection, that practical agriculturists like Mr. Baker do not agree on this point with Mr. Davis; and that rational as his and old Jethro Tull's practice appears, it does not meet the unanimous approbation of working farmers. The fact, we believe, is, that the soil, situation, including the inclination or flatness of the surface, previous mode of cultivation, nature of the crops, &c., make a different treatment applicable, on the great majority of subjects, to almost every farm. On this account general principles are very difficult of application, and the practice which is advantageous on one farm may fail on another.

It must be observed, too, that of all the occupations to which individuals, under the present system of division of labour, exclusively dedicate themselves, none is perhaps more composite, or requires more knowledge, than that of the farmer. A carpenter is required to know only the strength of wood, and be skillful in working it. A knowledge of the properties of iron, and the effects of fire, is nearly all that is necessary for a good smith. If a capitalist be well informed of the prices of goods in different places, he may make his fortune as a merchant. But a farmer, to be successful, must be acquainted with the properties of plants and animals, which are not so uniform and simple as those of wood or metals. He must know something of chemistry. Even before the modern introduction of complicated machinery into the operations of the farm, he had to handle ploughs and waggons; and at present the machinery about a farm is as complicated as that of a cotton-mill; and a farmer ought to be, to some extent, a mechanician. His operations depend on the seasons, which vary considerably from year to year; and on the weather, which varies from day to day. To be successful, he must notice the signs of changes that are to come, and be prepared to take advantage of them. He must vary his practices on the same farm, as the soil of his different fields varies; and he must change his seed, his plough, and his animals, as he finds them deteriorate or be defective in the properties he particularly requires. He cannot act successfully by nature; he must continually exercise his judgment. Besides being something of a chemist, a botanist, and a mechanic, he must be a merchant, and must adapt his products to the markets. His labourer must be a bit of a mechanic too, and be enabled to mend many a little derangement in harness and gear, and in waggons and carts. He must be a hedger and ditcher, as well as a drainer, a ploughman, and a thrasher. Now though few or no persons pretend to direct the carpenter, the smith, or the merchant, in his comparatively simple operations, almost every theoretical gentleman fancies that he knows all about farming, and can direct the "jolter-heads," or "clodhoppers," as farmers are called, in the management of their own peculiar business. From all the literary fountains of the empire, accordingly, advice and obprobrium are now poured on the farmers; but, as we are slow to credit the ability of those who casually direct their attention to a subject, to guide men who devote their lives to it, and have to get bread by their labour, we are not so sanguine as many of our contemporaries in expecting great improvements in agriculture by the instrumentality of public writers. We are extremely glad to see literature applied to this valuable art, and the practices of one farmer or one country made known to every other; but when principles, practices, and recommendations are excessively numerous and contradictory, as at present, they are more likely to beget confusion than improvement.

The essay in the present collection which is the most immediately interesting, concerns the question "why corn is raised cheaper abroad than in England." The author is both a theoretical and a practical man, who has introduced improvements and seen them generally adopted, and he comes to the conclusion that "the cheaper cost of foreign corn is principally due to no expense being incurred for manure to grow it." He shows, by the smaller returns actually obtained for labour in Russia, Poland, Germany, Syria, America, Australia, that the greater supposed natural fertility of the soil and lower prices of labour do not enable those countries to undersell us. He shows, too, that it is not due to the lesser charges on land abroad. In his opinion it arises from "the heavy expenditure which the English farmer alone incurs for the maintenance of fertility, and which once in four or five years amounts to £6 or £7 an acre." "The expenses," he says, "incurred by English farmers to raise manure, are so much, in many instances, as to be fatal to profitable farming." In his opinion, therefore, what is called "high farming" cannot be profitable; and all the admonitions given of late to the farmers by the most influential men in the country, from Sir Robert Peel downwards, to "farm high," must hasten their ruin. To decide between Mr. Davis and such great authorities on a point that involves the welfare of the agricultural community, is beyond our abilities: we must content ourselves with noticing the difference, as one of the many circumstances in the conduct of these teachers that tend to perplex the agriculturist; and with saying, that landlords have a strong interest in pressing such advice on the farmers, which Mr. Davis has not. We may, indeed, add, that the successful example of one farmer or two farmers, when the competition for manure was comparatively inactive, and the price of corn comparatively high—from which the rule to "farm high" has been deduced—is not a guarantee that the general practice, with a comparatively low price for corn, will be equally successful.

We are inclined to think the causes of the inability of our farmers to grow wheat at foreign prices—if the fact be so, of which we have some doubts—are to be found elsewhere than they are generally sought; but, passing that subject by, we must conclude, from the multiplicity of knowledge required to make a good farmer, that one of the essentials to improvement is to carry a proper division of labour into all the operations of agriculture. In fact, that is now taking place, without its having been recommended. It has been dictated by circumstances, and is therefore, we may be sure, proper. Thus we have civil engineers, like Mr. Josiah Barker, confining their business exclusively to agricultural drainage; chemists, like Dr. Lyon Playfair, devoting much attention to agricultural chemistry; and some farmers, like Mr. Ellis or Mr. Elvez, growing only hops. This process must be extended; the occupation of land must of necessity be adapted to this principle, not to the old and rude spade husbandry of individuals, each farmer growing everything for himself; and each husbandman must no more think of being a universal farmer, than a merchant of being a universal dealer. Why division of labour has not already become more extensive in agriculture, is probably due to the principle on which land has hitherto been occupied; and one great advantage which will long result from abolishing restrictions on the trade in food will be to bring the occupation of land under the guidance of natural principles, so that division of labour can become as complete in agriculture as it is in manufacturing pins and needles.

Immediate practical improvement can scarcely be promoted by insisting on principles that want the sanction of enlarged experience; it can only be achieved by the assiduous labour of individuals. There is nothing to be got in farming, any more than in other callings, except by skill and industry; and we believe that several gentlemen who have of late undertaken to instruct the farmers, have not found their own desultory labours very advantageous. It is, probably, still true that a farm which gives a living to rent-paying farmers, when cultivated by the owner leaves a loss rather than a profit.

The Essays of Mr. Davis are of a very miscellaneous nature, and are collected from some periodicals in which they have previously appeared. They relate to Increasing the value of Land by the employment of Capital; to Landlords Improving their Farms; to the Prospects of the Farmers; to the Effects of thorough Drainage on Health; to Improving Ireland by means of Apprenticing some of its Youth in England; to Sewage, to Cottage Farming, Early Sowing, and to most of the topics concerning agriculture that have of late engaged the public attention. They are of a practical cast, taking a plain, rather than a novel view of the condition and prospects of agriculture, and well deserving the attention of farmers and of all persons who speak or write on those subjects.

COMPOSITE COLUMNS.—No. IV.

BY ALBERT SMITH.

FOREIGN ENGLISH.

OOKING over a parcel of old hotel cards collected on the Continent, we have been struck with the frantic attempts of the landlords to appeal to English tourists in their own language. In some cases the translation is far more difficult to comprehend than the original; and in all, the most comical mistakes are committed.

At Zurich, the proprietor of the Hotel Baur announces, "At the top of the hotel is a Belvidere, which like a walk 300 feet in length."

At Berne, a tradesman paints in large letters over his shop, "Great sortment of tobacco."

At Metz, at the Hôtel d'Europe the vaunting proprietor writes, "Englist spoken horses and carriages to be had for the convenience of a walk."



At Thun, the landlord is utterly obscure in pointing out the attractions of his house, thus: "The Hotel of the Steamboat is situated on the shone of the Aar, at fifty yards of the feist." We never knew what this meant, and when we appealed to the man himself, he could not tell us.

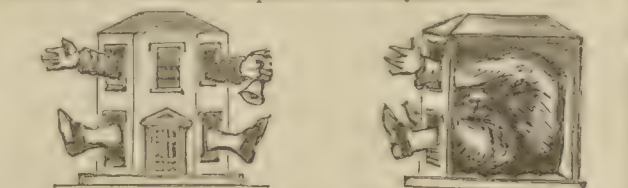
Even when it is correct, English is terribly out of place in foreign lands. We spoke of the Pompeiengine in our last. At Cairo, amidst all the wondrous eastern architecture and "Arabian Nights" attributes generally, the traveller comes upon a flaming blue board inscribed, "The Union Livery Stables. Horses and carriages to be let by the day or hour." And we once saw, and copied, on a little cabaret overlooking the fairest tract of Normandy, but near a railway in formation, "Groggs confectioned in every species." In the carte of a two-franc restaurant in the Palais Royal, in Paris, a translation is given on another page: *Pieds de mouton* is called "sheps trotters;" and *pain à discretion* "bread without stint." Not more explanatory is *Poulet à la Marengo*, "A chickens after the mode of Marengo."

It is with great pleasure we find that the vagrant conundrums are at length entirely put down. The last was found wandering about a slow dinner-table last week, in a state of great desultion. A professed funny diner-out, taking compassion on it, asked, "When does a young lady, foolishly in love, resemble a ship in a harbour?" and upon somebody immediately replying, "When she's attached to a buoy," the riddle was ignobly sent adrift, amidst the execrations of the company. This was the last; and the repose of society is now assured.

THE DECLINE OF GREENWICH FAIR.

REENWICH FAIR, according to public report, has been worse this year than in the memory of the oldest tumbler. That most fatal of all destructive tendencies, a diminution of belief, has so operated, that we question whether it will not soon rank with the St. John's Eve bonfires, the Maying in the Strand, the Yule Log, the Fool's Festival, Bartholomew Roast Pigs, and other extinct sports and pastimes.

The spirit of practical inquiry that marks the age has been fatal with respect to the wonders of Greenwich. Formerly, when spectators observed the dwarf ring his bell from his small abode, as in Figure 1, they believed that such was his constant habitation, in which he led a life of independent conviviality and comfort.



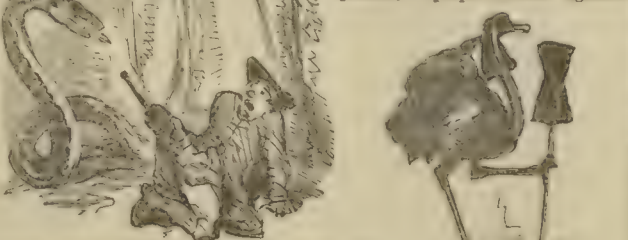
1.—THE DWARF'S HOUSE, AS SEEN IN FRONT OF THE SHOW. 2.—UNCOMFORTABLE POSITION OF THE DWARF, IN HIS HOUSE, AS SEEN SIDEWAYS, AND IN A SECTION.

But now, inquisitive minds have gone round to the side of the platform, and perceived that his position, as shown in Figure 2, was far from comfortable. A great moral lesson has also been drawn from that fact. The dwarf is not the only householder who makes a great display of reckless revelry to the world, whilst in private all his endeavours are directed, as shown, to make both ends meet.

The drama of Richardson's Theatre is in as declining a state as it is everywhere else; and for the same reason—it does not instruct, and it has ceased to amuse. From the moment that the audience began to throw gingerbread nuts at the *Ghost*, and ask the spangled usurper after his mother, its doom was fixed; and so no more need be said about it. Its kings and villains will alike share the fate of their prototypes of late years. They will sink to the rank of "supers," in remote but better regulated establishments, and there quietly pass away.

The greater part of the show-wonders will not be much affected by the decline of Greenwich Fair. The Black Wild Indian will settle down as a peaceful Lascar at a crossing; the Learned Pig will be fattened for bacon; the Strong Man will find ready employment on the wharves; and the Spotted Boy, cleared of his caustic patches, will run errands and carry round newspapers. But, with respect to the menageries, grave difficulties present themselves. We must look forward to this:—

Formerly, when any one wanted to get rid of the keep and care of wild beasts, they presented them to the Zoological Gardens; as individuals send South Sea paddles, and other dust-collecting lumber, to the museums of new literary institutions. But now the Gardens have received so many savage dogs and irascible birds, that every kennel and perch is occupied. We see no other resource for the proprietors, but to turn some of their collection loose, and train up the others to use. That the first plan may be attended with some inconvenience, is true; and the Greenwich Pensioners may not enjoy their accustomed repose in the Park, when it becomes a jungle; but the second may be advantageous. There is, at present, a proper crusade against



PROBABLE EFFECT OF THE DISBANDED MENAGERIES.

funeral pageantry. As ostrich feathers and banners form an expensive portion of it, the ostrich could be trained to bear his own, and so effect a retrenchment at once; whilst a pitiful absurdity would be abolished.

For the bear we have our misgivings. Of late years, Terpsichore has so obtained in the affections of the public, that they no longer regard the dancing of bruin as an accomplishment to be admired; and this was his only chance of gaining a livelihood. Looking to the strange lack of proportion between the supply and demand, connected with the growth of the hair, we much fear that we have rightly anticipated



THE FINAL DESTINY OF THE BEAR.

ROME ILLUSTRATED.—On the 4th of MAY will be published an ADDITIONAL NUMBER of THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, devoted exclusively to the

HISTORY AND TOPOGRAPHY

OF THE

CITY OF ROME.

Comprising an Historical Memoir on the varied fortunes of the "CITY OF THE CÆSARS," and the RISE of MODERN ROME under the POPES; together with Notices of the PRESENT APPEARANCE of the CITY—its BASILICAS, CHURCHES, PALACES, VILLAS, OBELISKS, FOUNTAINS, RUINS, &c.; and accompanied with ILLUSTRATIONS of St. Peter's, the Capitol, the Castle of St. Angelo, the Pantheon, the Arch of Titus, the Arch of Drusus, the Churches of Sta. Maria Maggiore and of St. John Lateran, the Piazza del Popolo, the Piazza di Spagna, Monte Cavallo, the Farnese Palace, the French Academy, the Column of Trajan, the Fountain of Trevi, the Circus Maximus, as it stood in ancient Rome; the Ruins of the Colosseum, of the Forum, of the Baths of Caracalla, of the Basilica of Constantine, of the Ponte Rotto, and the Temple of Vesta, and of the Tomb of Cecilia Metella, Obelisk, the Dying Gladiator and Michael Angelo's Moses, Views of Remarkable Localities in the Siege Operations of last year; subjects illustrative of modern Manners and Costume, viz. Pifferari, Models, Ecclesiastics, Students of the Propaganda, Monks giving Soup to the Poor, the Games of Morra and Bowls, Wine-carts, the *Café Greco*, &c. The whole forming, with the LARGE VIEW of ROME, a COMPLETE PICTURE of the "ETERNAL CITY" in the NINETEENTH CENTURY.

THE LARGE VIEW OF ROME, GRATIS.

The DOUBLE NUMBER, price ONE SHILLING.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C A is in error; the tube in the Illustration is rightly placed.
W F Sanderson-town—Inquire for the work on Emigration at Sanderson's, publisher, Charing-cross.
BLAIN—The Royal state carriages upon railways are the property of the companies; and the Royal journeys are, of course, charged.
A SUBSCRIBER, Upper Tooting—The Surrey Lunatic Asylum has not been engraved in our Journal. (See "Hrayley's History of Surrey.")
A SUBSCRIBER—See Butler on the Use of the Indies.
A LOVE OF MUSIC—We cannot undertake to recommend teachers of any instrument, as it is our rule to steer clear of professional and trade influences.
B N Gainsborough—The daily meteorological observations taken at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, are published weekly in the Registrar-General's reports. With respect to the best barometer, enquire of Mr. Galsner, Royal Observatory, Greenwich.
A S L—For the purpose of having a convenient and uniform measure of time, the average of all the apparent solar days in a year is taken, and is called a mean solar day. Mean time is found by applying the equation of time to apparent time, as shown by a sun-dial or from observation. (See the several "Illustrated London Almanacs.")
J B—The duty upon tobacco unmanufactured is 3s per pound; upon manufactured tobacco or cigars, 9s per pound.
CHILSWORTH—The shillings of Elizabeth have no date upon them: your coin must therefore be a sixpence. Worth is
LOO LOO—There is at present no Countess of Portsmouth. The marriage of the present Earl with Anne, daughter of John Hanson, Esq., was annulled by a decree of the Lord Chancellor, in 1839.
BERA—A younger son, after his marriage, and consequent impalement of his wife's arms, still continues his proper mark of cadency. The correct blazon of the shield submitted is— "Per pale arg. and az. on a chev. ermine, between three crosses potent counterchanged, as many molets."
A GENEALOGIST—The daughter of an heiress is entitled to quarter her mother's arms with her paternal coat; but, if she be not an heiress herself, her children do not take either her own or her mother's bearings.
INQUISITOR—Mr. Jones Lloyd has rendered great service to his country as a financier, and his opinion has often aided Government in their monetary proceedings. Besides, he stood, in point of wealth and station, at the very head of the commercial interests, and was well entitled to the distinction he has obtained. The title of Overstone he takes from an estate in Northamptonshire. The Prime Minister may be a member of the House of Lords. Earl Grey is a case in point. The ministerial leader of the Commons would be that member of the Cabinet who had most weight and aptitude for the duties of the position. In Earl Grey's administration, Lord Althorp was leader in the Commons. Neither the Attorney General nor Sir John Lubbock has a seat, *ex officio*, in the House of Commons.
A Z—The arms of Howness are "Arg. a tress between three lozenges az. Crest: An oak-tree proper, thereon pendent an escutcheon gu."
Z X Y—Certainly not. No one has a right to two crests, unless he bears two names, or has obtained the second crest by special grant.
MATELOT—We do not think Admiral Boscawen had any armorial bearings.
H, AN OLD SUBSCRIBER—The coat of arms submitted is not that of Wade. Of that family the crest is a rhinoceros.
J F T—The word "infants" is as we found it printed in all the Morning Papers, and it has not been corrected, nor have we reason to believe, from the tenor of Mr. Gorham's opinions, that "adults" could have been meant.
I T W—The title of the great Exhibition of 1851 is in No. 1, New Palace-yard.
E B—Jane Austen, the novelist, wrote "Pride and Prejudice;" her first work was "Sense and Sensibility;" she died at Winchester, in 1817.
E L N—The price of a marriage licence, special, is £5; not special, 10s.
A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER, Gloucestershire—The amount of duty upon advertisements received from the newspapers of the United Kingdom, is given in the Number published with this supplement. The rate of duty is in Great Britain 1s 6d, in Ireland 1s, on each advertisement, paid by the proprietors of the several newspapers.
A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER, Putney—Upon the octave, or first Sunday after Easter Day, it was a custom of the ancients to repeat some part of the solemnity which was used on Easter Day; whence this Sunday took the name of Low Sunday, being celebrated as a feast, though of a lower degree than Easter Day itself.—WHEATLEY.
A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER, Coventry—M. Cabet was formerly Attorney-General under Louis Philippe, and member of the Chamber of Deputies. The chief immediate use this Social dreamer made of the Revolution of February, was to carry out a plan previously meditated, and to ship off a body of his disciples to found an *icaria* in Texas.
A SUBSCRIBER, Es. 1 Mail—The second son of the sovereign is not born Duke of York.
ASCITENEUS—The adoption of slavery as a punishment for our criminals is a very objectionable proposition, since it does not promise reformation.
RICHMOND VA—The height of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, from the pavement in the street to the top of the cross, is 401 feet.
G W and A SUBSCRIBER, Oxford—1, Stratton-street, Piccadilly.
A CONSTANT READER, Belfast—The finest carmine may be had at No. 24, Soho-square.
W F Z—Phillips's Fire Annihilator may be had at Deane's, King William-street.
A F F—It was Sir James Clarke Ross, the nephew of Sir John Ross, who went in search of Sir John Franklin, in May, 1848.
AN AQUARIAN—We cannot advise you as to the missing registers, a circumstance by no means uncommon.
A LADY SUBSCRIBER—The work referred to is Mrs. Green's "Lives of the Princesses of England," published by Colburn, Great Marlborough-street.
FREDERICK—1. Not injurious. 2. The majority being reached, the parents have no further control. 3. The trustee, or his warrant, can alone receive the money from the savings-bank.
A READER, Reading—The title of the work should first ascertain the vacancy, or its probability, and then forward testimonials to the Postmaster-General.
A SWANSEA SUBSCRIBER informs us that some Cornishman has been lately assuming the name of the celebrated Philippe, who performed some time at the St. James's Theatre.
H W, Halstead—Apply to Messrs. Robertson and Co., Patent Agent, Fleet-street.
A B—We believe there to be an Agency-office in New Bond-street.
ESTABLISH, Chilton—you cannot do better than buy Griffin's Chemical Recreations, 9th edition. We cannot recommend a low-priced book on the subject.
Carlos, Jamaica, is thanked: we shall be glad to hear from him.
W N, Trinidad, is thanked for the sketch, though we cannot engrave it at present.
CHIMBERLAND—About £31 per annum in the Government Annuities.
F A—Nothing authentic since the year 1822.
R B, A CONSTANT READER—The bargains made on the Stock Exchange in East of England Bank Shares are so rare, that no quotation is marked.
POOT PILLICODDY, Glasgow—Rest is another word for profits. We never observed what P states in the latter part of his communication.
A SUBSCRIBER—The heaviest locomotive engine on the Great Western Railway has eight wheels, and weighs 31 tons, without coke or water. The tender is upon six wheels, detached, and is not included in the above weight.
ZETA—Neither your second brass coin of Nero, nor copper jetton of Oliver Cromwell, is of any value.
FORBES—Barons' younger sons take precedence of baronets.
A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER—We do not think there has been any specific grant of arms to Bleadon, which family is, most probably, a branch of that of Bleadon.
T W P—Spectemur agendo means, "Let us be examined by our conduct."
* * * For remainder of Replies, see the Number published with the present Supplement.

AUSTRALIAN EMIGRATION,

FROM THE SKETCH-BOOK OF A SETTLER.

THE first of our Correspondent's Sketches is a scene of great animation—a party of settlers driving horses to the stockyard. Mr. Wilkinson, in his recently published work on "South Australia," says:—

"The horses are good and cheap; those purchased by the stockowners being fast, strong, and able to endure great fatigue; and the price for such is only about £15 each. The mares are nearly as useful for the saddle as the geldings, and valuable, moreover, for breeding purposes. The master will have one or two saddle horses constantly for his own riding, and will have little to do but to enjoy himself. This is the most free and least troublesome life with which I am acquainted. The horses are hardy, and perform long, nay surprising journeys, during which they are not supplied with any provender, except what they pick up when turned out to grass after the day's labour is over. Before being let loose they are hobbled or tethered if they cannot be depended upon; but those that can be trusted are allowed to roam where they like, and in the morning will generally be found close to the spot where you have been camping. Thus the cost for their keep is absolutely nothing except when stabled in town, to which place their owner ought not to resort often if he expects to make a profit from his herds, for in Adelaide the living and lodging are expensive; the bill for the horse at livery soon mounts up, and the journey there may, in many cases, be saved. The horses are sure-footed, which is very lucky, for they are frequently obliged, when after cattle, to gallop up and down most dangerous places, amongst stones, rocks, and fallen timber, literally at full speed; such places, I think, as few of the English steeple-chasers would venture, for a fall would not improbably settle both horse and rider."

The second scene represents the Settlers Buh-ing it, and camped for the night, having wearied themselves with the chase of the kangaroo. This is one of the emigrant's delights.

Mr. Dutton, in his volume on "South Australia," tells us:—

"The life of a settler, on the whole, is one which has infinite charms for a young man: he may fancy himself lord of the soil to the utmost stretch of his imagination; he may get on his horse and gallop over 'hill and brae,' baring his brow to the breeze, and throwing all cares to the winds. The routine of a sheep station is an unvaried life of simple enjoyment; it does not fully occupy the time of a settler, but gives him plenty of leisure to cultivate his own mind by reading, or other studies, in the intervals that he is cultivating the soil, fresh

A U S T R A L I A N E M I G R A T I O N .



DRIVING HORSES TO THE STOCK-YARD.

from the hand of Nature, for his bodily wants. Does he feel tired of sedentary occupations, there is his staunch nag grazing in the paddock, ready to afford him the means of taking a 'burst' after an 'emu,' 'kangaroo,' or 'dingo,' accompanied by his faithful hounds; or he may prolong his gallop, and visit a neighbour, where he is sure to meet with a hearty welcome and sterling hospitality. Does, perchance, care or 'blue devils' intrude upon him,

Or should, some wayward hour, the settler's mind
Brood sad on scenes for ever left behind.

CAMPBELL.

there is his never-failing remedy close at hand; seated before his large fire-place in the dim twilight of evening, with outstretched legs, the little 'black pipe' is made to do 'good service and true;' his eye watches the curling pyramids of smoke, as they gracefully ascend to his thatched roof; with every whiff he feels

himself better, his thoughts are revelling in the fairy realms of imagination; when all his romantic ideas are suddenly dissipated by the boisterous chorus of his dogs, announcing the arrival of a neighbour, or traveller, and the necessity of providing for his wants in the shape of 'vulgar damper and tea.'

We perceive, by the *Shipping and Mercantile Gazette*, that a new produce connected with the agricultural interest in Australia has lately been added to the export articles. Some beef of excellent quality, and perfectly preserved in tin cases, has recently been imported from Newcastle, near Sydney, New South Wales, in considerable quantities, into this country. Many masters of ships have used this Australian beef, and certified to its general fine quality; and with emigrant and passenger ships it must come into extensive use, because it does

away with the necessity for taking such large supplies of live stock; but a powerful recommendation is found in the fact that the Admiralty, aware of the great utility in using preserved boiled beef for the crews of her Majesty's ships, have required tenders for the supply of 1,000,000 lb. To shipowners this beef is expected to prove a valuable substitute and change for their crews, once or twice a week, for salt-beef and pork, especially as it will not involve any extra expense.

We may here mention, too, that, following up the almost ubiquitous fashion of illustrating Emigration and Travel, now so popular with our Panoramic and Dioramic artists in the metropolis, Mr. Skinner Prout has chosen Australia for his land; and his Views in the Colony, now exhibiting in Leicester-square, are well worth a visit. Some of the scenery in the harbour of Port Jackson is remarkably fine.



BUSHING IT.—CAMPED FOR THE NIGHT.

THE WALLERSTEIN GALLERY.



NO. 7.—BYZANTINE SCHOOL.—VIRGIN AND CHILD.

Of the light which the relics of mediæval painting handed down to us have thrown upon the history of the art in Europe, there cannot be the slightest doubt; and it is equally true that these memorials of antiquity have risen in value in proportion to their capability of establishing links in the gradation from school to school. To those who are acquainted with the Continental galleries of ancient pictures, and with some few private collections in our own country, it is no difficult task to trace in unbroken succession the peculiarities of almost every master of importance from an early period down to the revival in the 16th century. But this is an advantage of which in England the masses are not possessed; and, as an attempt to obviate this deficiency, a collection of early German and Italian works (many of them of high merit in consideration of the periods during which they were executed) has been introduced into this country through the instrumentality of his Royal Highness Prince Albert; and, we trust, will be offered for sale to the trustees of the National Gallery. This is an occasion of rare and singular occurrence. The pictures are deposited for the present in two of the rooms of Kensington Palace. A catalogue of the pictures has been prepared though it is to be regretted that it is in some few respects wanting in accuracy; for instance, in the description of a picture which it ascribes to Raphael, but which is in reality of a totally different school. This catalogue is, however, at least a valuable appendix; because, besides being to some extent to be depended on, it conveys the idea which has long been entertained of the pictures abroad, and represents the opinion on the subject of the present illustrious possessor, his Serene Highness Prince Louis D'Ottingen Wallerstein.

The history of the Collection is, perhaps, best gleaned from the preface to the private catalogue, containing the following facts:—

When, at the close of the eighteenth and beginning of the nineteenth century, a spirit of innovation threatened, in its first outbreak, to destroy not only customs and institutions, but also the monuments of science and art, some influential persons united to save what could be saved from utter destruction. Among those who so exerted themselves was Prince Louis of Ottingen Wallerstein, who already possessed a collection of antique paintings, which had been for centuries in his family, and which the convulsions of the times enabled him to enrich by many recent acquisitions.

"He arranged his Collection in four classes—

"I. Paintings of the Byzantine school, comprising the productions of Eastern art between the tenth and the thirteenth century. This part of the Gallery was intended to represent that style which was adopted by Christian artists in the East after the time of Constantine the Great, and which, in consequence of the frequent intercourse between the East and the West under Charlemagne and his successors, through presents made by the Greek Emperors to the Carlovingian Kings, and by the Crusades and the pilgrimages in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, exercised so marked an influence on the fine arts of the West. To this class belong the pictures numbered from 1 to 9.

"II. Early Italian paintings, illustrating, by some eminent and characteristic specimens, the first steps of the art in Italy. To this class belong the pictures numbered from 10 to 25.

"III. A collection of the productions of early German art, comprising the principal masters of the schools of Suabia, Franconia, Saxony, and Upper Germany. This portion of the collection has passed into the possession of the King of Bavaria, who, by the acquisition of the celebrated Boissière Gallery, has already completed his collection of the other ancient schools. This collection is, however, represented by a few specimens found under the numbers 27 to 43.

"IV. A collection of paintings of the ancient Rhenish, Flemish, and Dutch schools, comprehending the remainder of the collection, from numbers 44 to 101, with the above exceptions."

As we have already spoken of other ancient pictures possessed on the Continent, it may be advisable to give a short list of the most celebrated foreign collections, to show how much connoisseurs abroad esteem these venerable artistic documents; and how much a collection of the kind is required by the British public to explain by what steps were realized the glorious efforts of Italy in the 16th century. The collection we have now under notice is the only private one existing that can enter into any rank of rivalry with the Munich Gallery. The Louvre still contains a fair sprinkling of these early painters. The King of Holland availed himself of his former position in Belgium to purchase every fine authenticated work of the early school of his country. These pictures are now at the Hague. The city of Bruges is also rich in such rarities, dispersed in a variety of civil and ecclesiastical buildings, and Ghent and Brussels contain in their museums much of great interest. The Museum of Antwerp possesses the most important in number and consequence of these schools, being the collection formed by one of the late burgomasters, Van Ertborn, who bequeathed the result of his acquisitions, by the expenditure of a handsome fortune, to his native city. This splendid gift was not accepted until the learned in art had been consulted, and awarded their judgment upon the authenticity of the various pictures. Berlin, too, contains many capital performances of the same class, including the disreputable pillage of the Van Eycks from Ghent; and in England we possess a considerable number, entirely distributed throughout private collections, with the exception of the two specimens of ancient art from the pencil of Taddeo Gaddi, presented to the nation by Mr. Conyngham, and now placed upon the walls of the National Gallery.

From the Wallerstein collection we have selected four subjects for illustration, and these will serve to give a good idea of the general importance of the whole. The first is taken from the Byzantine class, and is evidently a work of

very early date. The master is, of course, unknown. It represents a Virgin and Child, of a peculiar treatment, the drapery consisting entirely of black, edged with red, and heightened with gold. The usual monogrammatic contractions are introduced in the back of the picture, and both figures are provided with "nimbi." The painting is round and soft, and deeply toned in the flesh tints.

The next engraving is from one of the marvellous works of Jan Van Eyck. This also is a Virgin and Child of exquisite execution, though slightly out of drawing. An artistic contemporary thus speaks of the work under consideration:—"To offer a judgment upon the authenticity of works by the early masters which offer no other title than ocular examination, can only be safely done by those who are acquainted with the technical manipulation of the materials and an artistic acquaintance with their indisputable performances. Without presuming upon such qualifications in any high degree, we nevertheless fearlessly assert that the present picture is truly attributed to Jan Van Eyck; it possesses, independent of the analogy of its inventive qualities, precisely the same tints, the same mode of blending, touch, and pencilling the painter has employed in all the great works now existing in the several cities of Bruges, Ghent, and Antwerp, which we have recently investigated with the greatest attention. So little is Jan Van Eyck known in England, that, for many years, there has been before the eyes of all our connoisseurs, real and pretended, a picture by him in a public collection, frequented by all the lovers of pictures, and passed unnoticed under the designation of Leonardo da Vinci; it is called 'The Salvator Mundi,' and stands No. 277 in the catalogue of the Dulwich Gallery. No picture in the national collection invites the attention of the multitude, so much as the solitary example of this master there placed; a sterling proof that where the true qualities of art exist, they attract even those unlearned in its theories."

We now come to the remarkable specimen of Lucas Van Leyden, depicted in the centre of our page. The subject is a conversation between St. Peter and St. Dorothea, who stand in front of a magnificent curtain of green and gold embroidery, which is drawn before a column, over the top of which is seen a distant landscape. Nothing can be more wonderful than the perfect manipulation of this important production, which is upwards of four feet in height. St. Peter holds the Gospel and keys in one hand, and in the other a pair of spectacles, which reflect the quarried glass supposed to hold the position of the spectator. His beard and hair are short, grey, and curling, finished with a great degree of elaboration, and his face is square and broad, according to the usual type. The mantle of the saint is crimson over blue, while St. Dorothea is attired in an ample white robe lined with red and gold brocade over a dress of crimson and gold; her long fair hair, confined by a small garland of flowers, falls over her shoulders; in her right hand she holds a carnation, and the basket, shaped like a vase, which she has in her left, contains a variety of flowers. This painting, so remarkable for its technical skill, is one of a series, the three companion pictures being now in the Pinacotheca at Munich.

Our last illustration is from a long picture by Israel von Meckenen (Mecheln), and represents "The Presentation in the Temple." A dazzling performance. The scene takes place in front of an intricate and beautiful Gothic altar-piece of stone-colour and blue, supported by bronze figures. The background is of burnished gold, from which the groups stand out in clear and brilliant relief. The Virgin presents the infant Christ to the High Priest, who wears a cope of gold embroidery, presenting the subject of the Annunciation. Behind the Virgin stands St. Joseph, holding a torch, and searching his pocket for the money offering. On the same side are a youth and three women, the youngest of whom,



NO. 67.—LUCAS VAN LEYDEN.—ST. PETER AND ST. DOROTHEA.

richly attired, carries two turtle doves. On the other side of the altar are three men and three women: the man nearest the altar appears from his dress to be a person of distinction; he wears a blue cap on his head: an elderly woman—



NO. 64.—ISRAEL VAN MECKENEN.—THE PRESENTATION IN THE TEMPLE.



NO. 53.—JAN VAN EYCK.—VIRGIN AND CHILD.

perhaps St. Anna—with a torch in her hand, is speaking to him; on this side, also, the youngest of the women holds a dove. The whole picture strongly reminds of the manner of Van Eyck. The companion work, representing "The Marriage of the Virgin," is in the Royal Gallery of Munich.

Such are generalized descriptions of the four pictures we have selected from the Collection before us as being favourable specimens of the whole, and, at the same time, of less grotesque character than many of the pictures, which, it must be confessed, are, from other reasons, also interesting in their way.

We conclude our observations with a list of the entire Gallery, together with the masters' names appended to each picture:—

MASTERS OF THE BYZANTINE SCHOOL.

1. "The Sudarium, with the Legend of King Abgarus."—2. "The Death of the Virgin." This picture was brought by a Crusader, Count Helfenstein, from the East, and was preserved in the treasury of a Sovereign German abbey until its secularisation.—3. "The Virgin as Queen of Heaven."—4. "Christ enthroned."—5. "Virgin and Child."—6. "Virgin and Child."—7. "Virgin and Child." This is the first of the pictures of which we offer an engraving. It is on copper. Size, 1 foot 3 inches by 9 inches.—8. "The Cloisters of Solowetz, on the White Sea."—9. "The Nativity."—9A (26). "Virgin and Child."

EARLY ITALIAN MASTERS.

10. "Virgin and Child with St. Bernardino." Of the Siennese school.—11-14. "Subjects from the Legend of St. Margaret." Of the Florentine school. These pictures have been since the fourteenth century on the altar of the private oratory of the Abbesses of St. Margaret at Eichstadt.—15-23. "Coronation of the Virgin." By Justus of Padua, an early Italian master.—24. "Virgin and Child." By Bernardino Betti, called Finturicchio; born A.D. 1454; died 1513.—25. "Virgin and Child." Ascribed (but we believe incorrectly) to Raphael Sanzio d'Urbino, born A.D. 1483; died 1520.

MASTERS OF THE EARLY GERMAN SCHOOL, COMPRISING THOSE OF SUABIA, FRANCONIA, AND UPPER GERMANY.

27. "The Holy Family." Master unknown.—28-30. "The Adoration of the Magi between rocks." Master unknown.—31. "The Death of the Virgin." Master unknown.—32. "Virgin and Child." Master unknown.—33. "The Holy Trinity." Master unknown.—34. "Virgin and Child in a garden." By Heinrich Aldegrever, born at Soest, A.D. 1502, died 1562, pupil of Albrecht Dürer. The whole composition of this picture is full of poetry and grace.—35. "The Martyrdom of St. Ursula and her Companions." By the same hand.—36. "Crucifixion." Master unknown, but probably of the school of Suabia.—37. "The Infant Christ learning to Walk." Master unknown.—38. "Holy Family, with Saints." By Sigismund Holbein, uncle of the celebrated Hans Holbein, according to Ch. de Mecklen, born at Augsburg, A.D. 1456; flourished, 1500. This picture formerly belonged to the Hohenzollern family (a branch of which is the reigning family of Prussia), and contains several portraits.—39. "Virgin and Child." School of A. Dürer.—40. "The Daughter of Herodias with the Head of St. John the Baptist." School of Lucas Cranach.—41. "The Nativity." Master unknown, signed G. B.—42. "A Portrait." Master unknown, with monogram composed of M. and O.—43. "The Fall of Man." C. J. Behem; 1642.

MASTERS OF THE RHENISH, FLEMISH, AND DUTCH SCHOOLS.

44. "Virgin and Child." Master unknown.—45 to 47. "A Triptych." Master unknown.—48 and 49. "The Annunciation." Master of the School of Cologne.—50. "Virgin and Child." Master of the Lombard school.

MASTER WILHELM OF COLOGNE, THE VAN EYCKS, AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FOLLOWERS.

51. "St. Catharine of Alexandria, St. Mathew, and St. John the Evangelist." By William Von Coeln, the Chief Master of the School of Cologne; flourished about A.D. 1370-80.—52. "Ecce Homo." By Hubert Van Eyck; born at Alten Eyck, A.D. 1366, died 1426.—53. "Virgin and Child." By J. Van Eyck; born A.D. 1390, died 1472. This is the picture represented in our second Engraving. The Virgin wears a blue tunic, supporting the infant Saviour on a white cushion. The Virgin alone has the "nimbus." On wood; size, 1 foot 4 inches by 11 inches.—54. "Virgin and Child." By Margaret Van Eyck, sister of the former two.—55. "A Pieta." By Hugo Van der Goes; flourished about 1460.—56. "Deposition from the Cross." By Rogier Van Bruges; flourished 1440.—57 and 58. "Ecce Homo," and "Mater Dolorosa." By the same.—59. "Portrait of an Ecclesiastic." By Memmelinck; flourished about 1430.—60. "Madonna and Child in a Landscape." Master unknown.—61 to 63. "Coronation of the Virgin." An extraordinary performance, which ought, it appears, to be ascribed to Antonello de Messina.

DUTCH MASTERS, AND FOLLOWERS OF VAN EYCK.

64. "The Presentation in the Temple." By Israel Van Meckenen, born A.D. 1440; died 1503. This subject has furnished our fourth illustration. It is on wood; size, 3 feet 7 inches by 2 feet 9 inches.—65. "Portrait of a Lady of the maiden name of Hoferin." By the same.—66. "Virgin and Child in a Garden." By Cornelius Engelbrechtsen, born A.D. 1468; died 1533.—67. "St. Peter and St. Dorothea." By L. Van Leyden, born A.D. 1494; died 1533. On this picture we have already offered some comments in the description of our Engraving of it: size 4 feet 2 inches by 2 feet 4 inches.—68. "Holy Family, with Angels." By Quintin Matsys; born A.D. 1450; died 1529.—69. "Judith." By the same.—70. "Portrait of a Female." By Bernard Van Orley; born A.D. 1490; died 1560.—71. "Mount Calvary." By Jan Van Mabux; died A.D. 1562.—72. "The Magdalen." By the same.—73. "Christ and Mary Magdalen." By the same.—74. "The Holy Family." By Jan Van Schorel; born A.D. 1495; died 1569.—75. "St. John in the Isle of Patmos." By Joachim Patenier, born at Dinant, A.D. 1490.—76. "St. Christopher." By the same.—77. "The Crucifixion." By the same.—78. "Virgin and Child with Two Saints." By Dierick Stuerbont;

flourished A.D. 1468.—79. "Virgin of the Rosary." By Rogier Van der Weyde; flourished A.D. 1500; died 1529.—80. "Adoration of the Magi." By Jan Van Heemsen; born A.D. 1500.—81 to 83. "Adoration of the Magi." By the same; inscribed "H.H. 1554."—84. "Adoration of the Infant Christ." By Martin Van Hemskerck; born A.D. 1493; died 1574.—85. "Portrait of Cosmo I., Grand Duke of Tuscany." By Antonis Moro; born A.D. 1519; died 1575.—86 to 88. "Adoration of the Magi." By Herri de Bles; flourished 1510.—89. "Portrait of a Young Man." By the same.—90. "The Circumcision." By Arnouldt Bogbaert.—91 to 93. "Deposition from the Cross." By Michael Coxie (Coxie); born A.D. 1497; died 1592.—94. "St. Francis receiving the Stigmata." Master unknown.—95. "Adoration of the Magi." Master unknown.—96. "Virgin and Child." Master unknown.—97. "Crucifixion." Master unknown.—98. "The Dead Christ Lamented by Two Female Saints." apparently Martha and Mary. Master unknown.—99. "The Treachery of Judas." Master unknown; marked "A.T. 1501."—100. "The Archangel Gabriel." Master unknown.—101. "A Girl Writing." Master unknown.—102. "Virgin and Child." Master unknown.

We have now enumerated in order the whole of the pictures in this important collection, and can only add our hope that so splendid and rare an opportunity of acquiring for the nation such a complete history of the art of painting from the earliest epoch to the 17th century, will not be lost.

EXHIBITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

A **very** meritorious Exhibition of works of modern art has just been opened by a society of artists, twenty-six in number, calling themselves the National Institution. The Association originated with a number of artists, who felt that very inadequate accommodation for the exhibition of their works was afforded by existing institutions; that a society was wanting in which each artist might have the control, as far as practicable, of the arrangement of his picture, that every work should at least have the advantage of being well seen. The present Institution, it will perhaps be remembered, exhibited for the first time at the Egyptian Hall, in Piccadilly, and afterwards at the Hyde Park or Chinese Gallery, and that the first name was the "Free Exhibition of Modern Art." The expense, however, we are told, entailed by this primary arrangement, became so much more onerous than was originally contemplated, that it was found necessary to abandon the principle in part, and to throw open the Galleries "free" for a limited period only. The Proprietary Institution, notwithstanding, will still retain the same leading principle for which it started, and the Galleries will, it is stated, "be opened at the end of the season for a fortnight, free of charge, for the benefit of the working classes." This is a step in the right direction, and one, moreover, which Lord John Russell the other night regretted that the Royal Academy had not made.

The National Institution consists of the following members:—W. Barraud (trustee), H. Barraud, R. W. Bass, Marshall Claxton, O. R. Campbell, T. C. Dibdin, L. W. Desanges, C. Dukes, A. Gilbert, R. E. M'lan, R. S. Lauder (president and trustee), W. Lukeing, J. G. Middleton (treasurer and trustee), E. J. Niemann, Sidney Percy, James Peel, Samuel Rayner, Frederick Rumble, Bell Smith (hon. secretary), J. Thorpe, E. Williams, sen., G. A. Williams, A. W. Williams, G. B. Willcocks, J. G. Waller, and E. C. Williams. The rooms are four in number, and have been built expressly for the Institution. The site (immediately opposite the Polytechnic Institution) is excellent, and the rooms are on the ground-floor, large and admirably lighted.

The number of exhibitors is eighty-four, and the number of works exhibited three hundred and seventy-three. In point of general excellence, the President, Mr. R. S. Lauder, takes the lead, and is well supported by Mr. M'lan, Mr. Desanges, Mr. Middleton, Mr. Percy, Mr. A. W. Williams, among the members; and among the exhibitors, by Mr. Armitage (celebrated for his prize cartoons), Mr. J. E. Lauder, Mr. Deverell, and Mrs. M'lan. The prices (an excellent practice) are affixed to each picture in the catalogue. Some are high. There are two at £315; and twenty, in all, at prices ranging from £100 to £315 inclusive.

Of Scriptural subjects, the principal contributors are by Mr. R. S. Lauder and Mr. Armitage; the former sending (No. 280) "Christ Appearing to Two of his Disciples on his way to Emmaus," and the latter (No. 37), a study of "Samson tying Firebrands to the Foxes' Tails." Mr. Lauder is not up to the Scriptural dignity of his subject; but Mr. Armitage is broad and effective, and even original.

Among the subjects from general history, the principal works are contributed by Mr. Desanges, Mr. Claxton, and Mr. Newenham. Mr. Desanges has sent a large, and in some respects clever picture, representing the "Excommunication of Robert, King of France, and his Queen Bertha." Mr. Claxton's subject is "Marie Antoinette with her children escaping from Versailles, when the palace was attacked by the mob;" and Mr. Newenham's "The Princes in the Tower." Mr. Claxton has well represented the perturbation of fear, joined with female courage and strength; but Mr. Newenham has only given a couple of pretty boys, that fail to evoke a single feeling connected with their prison in the Tower and their uncle Gloucester.

In the class of subject pictures, the two Launders and Mr. and Mrs. M'lan bear away the palm of excellence. Mr. R. S. Lauder (the President) was seldom stronger than he is in No. 45, "Gallioti, the Astrologer, showing Louis XI. the first Specimen of Printing;" nor has Mr. J. E. Lauder been seen to greater advantage than in No. 179, "The Cradle and Spinning-Wheel," an interior, painted in a style something between Wilkie and Alexander Fraser. Mr. R. S. Lauder's second picture, from "Quentia Durward," is not so good; nor is Mr. J. E. Lauder's "Mal-apropos, or One too Many," two female figures of the size of life, much to be commended for anything but its colour. Mrs. M'lan has a most touching prison scene called "Captivity and Liberty" (No. 244), a young mother in prison watching the swallows that fly within and without her prison walls. Mr. M'lan, an able and ample contributor to the Exhibition, has a pleasing "Highland Ford" (No. 2); and an impressive prison scene (No. 55), called "Here's his Health in Water," representing a Highland gentleman of 1715 in Carlisle prison, receiving, the day previous to his execution, the last visit of his mother, wife, and children, and instilling into his son (the future Highland gentleman of 1745) the principles of loyalty to the House of Stuart.

Among the painters who have sought for subjects in the vast body of English poetry, no one is more successful than Mr. Deverell in No. 143, a scene from "Twelfth Night," representing the Clown singing to the Duke. Amidst a certain oddity of treatment and hardness of manner, there is a right interpretation of the poet's meaning, and a minstrel and mediæval feeling not commonly seen in the works of English artists.

The strength of the Exhibition is in the number of excellent transcripts from English scenery. Mr. Sidney Percy has ventured, for the first time, on a very large canvas, and shown his skill in rendering the beauties of vernal nature. Mr. G. A. Williams has a small but most exquisite circular picture (No. 170), "Barning Church, Kent," marked £10, and, of course, marked "sold." The elder Mr. Williams has a good moonlight scene on the Thames, at Putney (No. 58); and a morning scene (still better), called "Hailing the Ferry" (No. 139), while Mr. T. C. Dibdin, in No. 190 ("Stewarts, Essex—the birth-place of Quarles the poet"), has transferred to canvas a scene which many have beheld with pleasurable feelings from the associations with which it is invested.

In portraiture there is a faithful full-length likeness of Sir James Duke, the late Lord Mayor, by J. Harris; and a three-quarter portrait of more than average merit, "Mrs. Gall" (No. 70), by F. Newenham. The best portrait in the Exhibition is a small half-length of the Rev. James White, the dramatist, by Mr. R. S. Lauder.

Some little pieces of average merit, and Mr. Barraud's Charity Children, "We praise Thee, O God," complete the notabilities of the Exhibition, which will be found to deserve and repay a visit.

We intend to give engravings of several of the works exhibited, at an early period.

FINE ARTS.

SCHAEFFER'S "CHRISTUS REMUNERATOR."

This picture is an illustration of the text in Matt. c. iii. v. 12, and exhibits the Saviour in the act of gathering his Elect, by extending both his arms, to assemble them, as it were, "under his wings;" while the Rejected, in a dark corner of the picture, are shown in a state of despair. There are the crowned tyrant, the military assassin, with the rich and the powerful, in astonishment and terror, gazing at a distance on the poor and the afflicted, who are proved to be the favourites of the Messiah's protecting care. The attitude of the Saviour combines majesty and grace, and there is much beauty in the repentant and suffering groups. A mother with her infant, and a child being taught the Gospel, are episodes well and expressively thrown in. As a companion to "the Christus Consolator," this picture of M. Airy Schaeffer's deserves engraving, and is now on view for that purpose at Messrs. Colnaghi's, Pall-mall.

CHUMBAL AND CHILLIANWALA.

CAPTAIN C. B. YOUNG, of the Bengal Engineers, has painted two pictures connected with the British Indian army, which, from their truthfulness, are deserving of attention. Their great merit is indeed their literal fidelity; but there is a cleverness beyond, which nevertheless gives them claims to art. The first represents the Passage of the "River Chumbal" by the army under the command of Lord Gough; and has many points of attraction. The troops, baggage, and camp followers are shown in motion on the march, with a liveliness and reality which cannot fail to interest. The second exhibits the "Battle of Chillianwala," and presents the army as moving into position. Both are now on view at Messrs. Dickinson's, New Bond-street, who are preparing them for immediate publication in the best style of tinted lithography, as companion prints. The subjects will, no doubt, prove extremely interesting.

BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR.

A MODEL of the Battle of Trafalgar, by Messrs. Sherrin and Haines, is now on view at 168, New Bond-street. It exhibits sixty-five of the vessels engaged on that occasion, in the positions which they actually occupied during the first two hours of the engagement. These are mounted on a composition board resembling the sea; and the spectator has thus the preliminaries of this splendid victory realized for him: while the scientific in naval warfare may subject the whole arrangement to analysis. The accuracy of the diagram, we are told, may be depended upon; and the exhibition has claims on public attention for the information it so attractively conveys.

AMERICAN SCENERY.

Mr. Harvey, at the Gallery of Illustrations, in the Haymarket, has been exhibi-

biting a series of what he calls "Atmospheric Landscapes," taken from American scenes, with which he has become so familiar, as to be able to depict their minute changes under atmospheric influences. The detail in these sketches is wonderful for its literal truthfulness and picturesque beauty. The seasons and the times of day are here most exquisitely illustrated. The artist, with great judgment, has confined himself to what is really characteristic in his subjects; and, accordingly, in tint, and tone, and situation, all is American to the slightest and least-headed touch. An exhibition of such peculiar interest and novelty deserves encouragement.

PASTEL PAINTING.

M. Victor Roberts has now exhibiting, in the Gallery in Oxford-street, a rather numerous series of portraits and fancy pieces, which, from their striking merit, are likely to bring the pastel style of painting into fashion. The pastel is the crayon brought by chemical means to the utmost perfection; and, as illustrated in these examples, is shown with great effect and to extraordinary advantage. A portrait of the artist's wife, for instance, is particularly powerful, and brilliantly coloured. A Watteau imitation, representing the Princess de Lamballe at Trianon, is also a favourable specimen; and the whole will repay an hour's careful inspection.

MUSIC.

AMATEUR MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The fourth concert took place last Monday, at the Hanover Rooms. The programme was exclusively made up of English compositions; the first part opening with Mr. H. Leslie's Symphony in F, and the second with Mr. G. A. Macfarren's MS. Symphony in D, entitled "Thalcan." The overtures were Balfe's "Castle of Aymon" and Wallace's "Maritana;" and there was, also, Mr. G. A. Osborne's "Marche Characteristique." Between the instrumental selections four madrigals were sung—Mr. John Hullah's "Song should breathe" (encored), J. Saville's "Waltz," Mr. W. Horsley's "See the chariot at hand," and T. Morley's "Now is the month of maying" (1595). The above scheme is an indication of considerable spirit on the part of the society; and so long as it confines itself strictly to amusement and improvement it will effect good, but we trust the members will devote their services solely to their own arena; it would, indeed, be deeply to be regretted that the large body of struggling professors should be in the slightest degree injured by amateur aid being extended to public concerts.

The Symphonies were conducted by their respective composers—that of Mr. Leslie was more steadily played than Macfarren's work—the latter being executed for the first time. The scherzo, in which Mr. Nicholson's clever oboe playing was to be remarked, was encored; and the symphony altogether confirmed the favourable impressions entertained of the talents of the young composer. Mr. Macfarren's production, with the exception of the andante in A, a charming movement in C, nine-eight time, was but a scramble, and it would be therefore unjust to pronounce any definite opinion on its merits, intricate and novel as were some of the inner workings. Mr. L. Negri conducted the remainder of the programme with ability. The fifth concert will be on the 29th inst.

MUSICAL EVENTS.—Next Monday will be the fourth Philharmonic Concert.—Mr. John Parry will give Albert Smith's entertainment of "Lights and Shadows" at Crosby Hall; and Mr. Milne and the Misses Smith their selection of Scotch melodies at the Music Hall.—On Tuesday will be the third meeting of the Musical Union, at which Charles Hallé will perform.—On Wednesday morning Mr. Platt's Farewell Concert, at the Hanover Rooms; and Mr. Aguilars's concert in the evening.—On Saturday (the 27th), the Royal Academy of Music concert.—On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, Italian Opera at Her Majesty's Theatre; and the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden; and English Opera every night, at the Princess's.—Miss Chandler's concert took place on Friday, at the Music Hall, Fore street.—At Exeter Hall, last night (Friday), the London Sacred Harmonic Society performed Handel's oratorio, "Judas Maccabæus," conducted by Mr. Surman, with the Misses A. and M. Williams, Stuart, Messrs. Sims Reeves, T. Williams, and Bodda.—On the same evening, Messrs. G. and J. Case, the concertina players, gave their annual concert at the London Tavern.—Sir H. R. Bishop delivered a Lecture on Music, at Crosby Hall, on Thursday night.—Mendelssohn's "Elijah" will be repeated, for the third and last time, next Friday (the 26th), at Exeter Hall, by the Sacred Harmonic Society, conducted by Costa, with Miss C. Hayes, the Misses A. and M. Williams, Miss Dolby, Messrs. Locke, A. Novello, and Herr Fornes as chief singers.—Frequenters of the two Italian Opera Houses are often puzzled to find out the friends they may recognise in the stalls or boxes, and seeking for them are frequently "in the wrong box." Messrs. Leader and Cook, of Old Bond-street, have issued neatly engraved pocket-plans of the interiors of both houses; and the amateur, at a glance, will easily ascertain the box or stall he wishes to engage, or to look for his acquaintances. These plans are not for sale, but are given to the customers of the publishers.—A marriage in "musical life," of some interest, took place on Monday; Mr. Balfe's eldest daughter being married to Maximilian Behrend, Esq., a banker of Dantzic.

DEATH OF MADAME DULCKEN.

WE regret to announce the death of Madame Dulcken, pianiste to her Majesty, who expired at her residence in Harley-street, last Friday week (the 12th inst.) in her 38th year, leaving a husband and six children to lament her premature decease. She was suffering for some time from abscess in the ear, and a final attack of delirium proved fatal in a few hours.

Madame Dulcken was a Mdlle. David, and a sister of the celebrated violinist David, of Leipzig. She first came to this country in 1829, and her brilliant style of playing ensured her for many years the first position in our public concerts, besides a considerable number of pupils. Her soirées given every year were remarkable for a classical selection of music, and her annual concert was regarded as one of the events of the season. Madame Dulcken was a universal favourite; she was intelligent and animated in conversation.

THE SHROVE-TIDE CARNIVAL AT ST. PETERSBURG

(From our own Correspondent.—Continued from page 227.)

BESIDES the doings in the Admiralty-square, which I have already endeavoured to describe in such a manner as to make those who have never been at St. Petersburg as familiar with them as I am myself, there are various signs throughout the capital that betoken a holiday. The Carnival is an inundation which, beginning with the lower classes, mounts until it has covered the very pinnacles and peaks of society.

The Winter Palace, that wonderful edifice, as compact as a cottage and as large as a town, stands on the water's edge, or rather on the edge of the ice. Thereabout, and in view of its windows, races are held daily over those diamond flags with which the climate has paved the broad waters of the Neva. There is no pretension in those daily races, which, however, are occasionally interspersed, during the course of the winter, with others of a more elaborate character. But otherwise you may see a little race, or call it a little exercise, any day, between sledges drawn by the light, nimble horses which are here so cheap and so abundant. Nor is the reindeer out of view. Yoked to tiny sledges, you see several of them coursing over the congenial footing; and for a few kopeks any one may take a drive. Along each side of the course a line of fir-trees seem to grow in the ice—a temporary umbrage suited to the temporary soil. The streets seem more animated, the Gastinnoi Dvor more busy, the equipages more numerous and more showy, the capital more brilliant. Parties of pleasure are made, large coaches with four and six horses are hired, and gaieties of every form projected and executed. The very costumes of the people out of doors are more various; for, although the ice still maintains its fierce grasp on the canals, the river, and the bay, yet the sun of spring, bright, joyful, conquering and to conquer, rises day after day, and produces already such an alteration in the temperature, that furs have ceased to be ubiquitous, and are now mingled and interspersed with other dresses, that recall the thoughts towards the West, the dear West. In a short time a thousand signs remind us, the sea will arise and shake off its tyrant, navigation will be restored, and many a severed circle reunited.

One circumstance particularly arrested my attention among the motley characteristics of the Carnival. I saw a splendid coach, English built and English appointed, drawn by four superb horses in the finest condition, and attended by several servants. I noticed the Imperial liveries. This carriage was followed by another equipage, its very counterpart; that by another, till twenty coaches and their eighty noble horses had passed in succession. No one was inside any of the vehicles. A little time afterwards I again observed one of these returning at a quicker pace, and full of young girls, all dressed alike, in the prettiest holiday attire, chatting and laughing in immense glee. It was charming to see how they enjoyed themselves, as it is always charming to see the enjoyment of the young, and especially of elegant little girls. "Who on earth are these?" asked I. "School-girls from the Catherine Institute," was the reply. "But the Emperor's carriages," persisted I; "how came the little rogues who are, I see, so prettily pranked out, to be driving in his Majesty's coaches?" "Oh! the Emperor has lent the children his carriages," said my friend; "he always does this sort of thing during the Carnival."

With respect to the in-door amusements of the Carnival, they consist chiefly in a multiplication of all sorts of parties, breakfasts, luncheons, dinners, and suppers. A species of merry madness prevails. People go to theatrical representations in the morning, and to others in the evening. Amusement is pursued with furious energy. As for the opera, it is more and more frequented the nearer it is to its close for a season, and to its transference to London.

It may easily be imagined that no ordinary measure of eating and drinking accompanies this general outburst of frolic. That is the case: and, perhaps, it is in some degree owing to the sharp transition from the Shrove-tide repelation to the jejune austerities of Lent (which among the Russians is far from being a mere name, but is kept with the utmost strictness), and then again the equally sharp transition from Lenten to Easter feast, that the visitation of the cholera has nowhere assumed so aggravated or malignant a form as in the capital of Russia. When at its height, there was not time or care left among the living to properly bury the dead; and the proportion of the latter to the former was, it is well known, more appalling than in any other city in Europe. Many mortal remains were carried through the streets, the last summer but one, not inclosed decently in coffins, but wrapped up carelessly in sheets or blankets—the same bed-clothes which had borne their last writhings. It is now supposed, thank God, that the plague in question has done its mission for the present, and that it will not this year re-appear in St. Petersburg. But, as I was remarking, it is con-

ceivable that while its power prevailed, the customs of the Russians themselves—their extreme austerity during Lent, preceded and followed by excessive indulgence—must have predisposed them, before the arrival of summer, for receiving and fostering the disorder in their disturbed constitutions; a result which several dishes, universally popular here—such as the *ogourtzi* (a kind of small cucumber, very pleasant and refreshing, but equally gild and crude)—may have contributed to aggravate. And yet, how many horrible stories of conspiracies among the doctors or among Poles and other foreigners, took possession of the people's minds! But this fertile subject of stories and reflections would lead me far away from the festival of Carnival, which alone I have at present undertaken to describe. And if, amid all the scenes I have endeavoured in a general and light manner to sketch, you conceive the prevalence of a character half partaking of the simplicity of a fair and half of the brilliancy of a great town and a great court, you will have the picture before you.

At present it is not otherwise before myself. We are now in the shady road of Lent; and the boisterous gaiety of Carnival is like the receding sound of a waterfall. Even the structures in the Admiralty square have disappeared as if by magic; for, though they will be rebuilt at Easter, the very sight of them, untenanted though they should be, is not allowed to profane the spirit of this penitential season. The laughing face of the capital is already changed to reserved, sober, and ascetic looks.

PORTRAIT OF KING CHARLES THE FIRST.—The original portrait of Charles the First, that was supposed to have been lost in the time of the Commonwealth, when, to prevent the discovery of the portrait, they reduced it in size by cutting it, has been found in Barnstable. It was painted by Van dyck in the year 1640, when the King was forty years of age, one year before the painter died. This painting had for a great many years been thrown about as valueless; it was so black it could scarcely be perceived what it represented, and the frame so rotten that it broke away as it hung. For the last ten years it was in the possession of Mr. Ward, at the Seven Stars, Anchor-lane; and when he left the house and sold off, Mr. W. Lewis, furniture-broker, Silver-street, bought it and took it home. It was thrown about for a long time under the heap of rubbish; at last it was picked up and ordered to be scrubbed with the scrubbing-brush, and when done it was hung up in his ware-rooms to dry. Several people passed and re-passed, who asked the price of it, but thought they would consider the matter; at last Mr. Taylor saw it, and bought it for 2s.; within a week he was offered £20; that gave Mr. Taylor an idea of the value of it. He then took it to the National Gallery, to know if there was such a painting missing, and had an answer there was; but finding it had to go through a process to bring it there, he returned to Barnstable again with it, and since that he has been offered as much as £2000; but it is considered worth £20,000, being one of the most valuable paintings known.—*Western Luminary.*

THE GREAT SEA-SERPENT.—The following we extract from the *Christian* (United States) *Mercury*:—"The following letter from a gentleman of Beaufort gives exciting news of what may, by this time, be the 'seat of war.' The old fellow has got into close quarters, and if he does not make a sudden and fortunate dash, has nothing better than offering himself as an oblation on the altar of science."—Beaufort, March 15, 1850. The report of Captain Bankenship and passengers has been verified by many other witnesses. This formidable sea-monster has been seen again to-day, we understand, in our waters. When discovered by those on board the steamer, 'his eminence' was in Port Royal Sound, a distance of seven or eight miles from this town. Since that time he has been lazily making his way up Broad River, and was seen by a gentleman, we understand, to-day, in White Branch River, an arm of the Broad. He is reported to be making his way higher up still, when, perhaps, he may be captured. He is described as being from 120 to 150 feet in length, and of proportionate bulk; has the head of a serpent, which he carries, when in motion, five or six feet out of the water. About ten feet from his head is a hump, resembling a huge hoghead, and as far as he could be seen out of the water a succession of humps was observed. He was pursued for several miles along the bank of the river, at times the party in pursuit coming very near to him. He was shot at with a rifle and shot gun, which had the effect of making him timid, and caused him to sink below the surface of the water when nearly approached. We understand that a party from this place has been made up to capture him, if possible. The plan is to man two large flats with a cannon to each, one going below where he is represented to be, and the other above; and then approach each other, and, when he is discovered, to fire into him. In this way he may be taken if, peradventure, he does not take them first. The Whale Branch is not more than 100 yards wide, and there is every probability of an animated conflict with this king of the waters within his own dominions; and I suppose it is admitted that the battle must be waged upon his own terms." The *Charleston Courier* has a letter from Beaufort, of the same date, and of similar tenor, to which is appended the following:—"Information has just reached us that the said sea-serpent is ashore at the mouth of the Skull Creek. If so, the prize is certain, and Beaufort immortalized."

BUSTS OF MR. ALISON, AND MR. MACAULAY.

BY PARK.

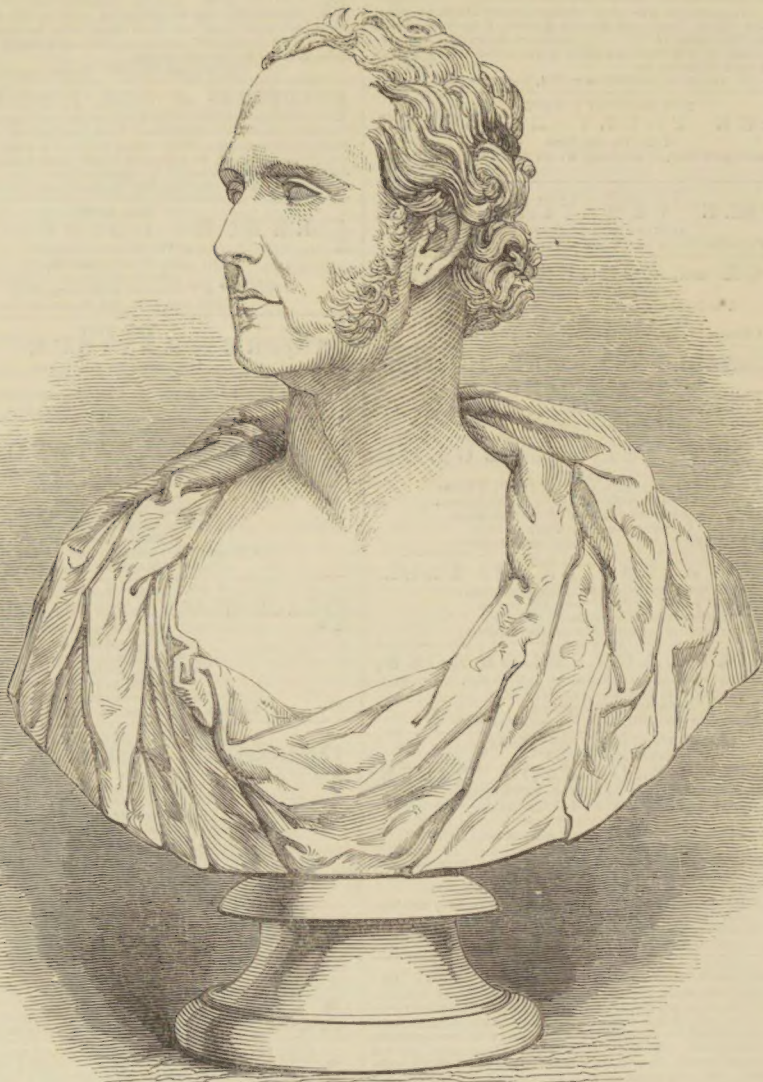
MR. ARCHIBALD ALISON, author of the "History of Europe," is son of the author of the well-known "Essay on Taste." He holds the office of Sheriff of Lanarkshire, and is much respected in the city of Glasgow, where his official duties compel him to reside. Though educated for the profession of the law, and daily administering justice as the principal local judge of a populous district, Mr. Alison's tastes are entirely literary. Besides the "History of Europe," in 20 volumes—a work which, we believe, originated in the pages of a "Scottish Annual Register," long since discontinued—Mr. Alison has written a "Life of Marlborough," and various economic and political pamphlets. He is also a frequent contributor to *Blackwood's Magazine*. It is, however, upon his "History of Europe" that his fame principally rests. If Mr. Alison be not the most successful of modern historians, we know not to whom in preference to him the palm can be conceded. His work is to be found in every library, and bids fair to rank hereafter as the most valuable historical production of the age in which he lived. This success is due not only to the importance and interest of his theme, but to the skilful, eloquent, and generally correct manner in which he has treated it. He has, doubtless, been guilty of some errors of omission as well as of commission, as we have heard of a literary amateur whose chief amusement for some years past has been to make a list of his mistakes; but, after all deductions of this kind, enough of merit remains in the work to entitle its author to a place in the highest rank of contemporary authors.

The bust of Mr. Alison, of which we present an Engraving, from a drawing by Mr. Frank Howard, was executed by Mr. Patin Park in the year 1846, and presented in marble to Mr. Alison by a body of his private friends in Glasgow, as a testimonial of their friendship for him as an individual; of their esteem and respect for him in his public capacity, as one of their local judges; and of their admiration of his writings. It is considered a very excellent likeness, and one of the best of Mr. Park's recent works.

MR. MACAULAY, though ambitious at one time, and perhaps still, of a reputation for poetry—though an acute critic, and a brilliant essayist—and though a showy and effective orator, who could command at all times the attention of an assembly that rather dislikes studied eloquence, seems at present inclined to build up his fame upon his historical writings. Most of his admirers consider that, in this respect, he has judged wisely. As a poet—however pleasing his "Lays of Ancient Rome," and some of his other ballads, may be—he could never have succeeded in retaining the affection of the public. Depth of feeling—earnest and far-seeing thought—fancy, imagination—a musical ear—a brilliancy of expression—and an absolute mastery of words, are all equally essential to him who, in this or any other time, would climb the topmost heights of Parnassus. Mr. Macaulay has fancy, but not imagination; and though his ear is good, and his command of language unsurpassed by any living writer, he lacks the earnestness and the deep philosophy of all the mighty masters of song. As a critic he is, perhaps, the first of his age; but criticism, even in its highest developments, is but a secondary thing to the art upon which it thrives. Mr. Macaulay has in him the stuff of which artists and originators are made; and we are of the number of those who rejoice that, in the vigour of his days, he has formed a proper estimate of his own powers, and that he has abandoned the poetical studies, in the prosecution of which he never could have attained the first rank; and those critical coruscations, which, however beautiful, must always have been placed in a lower scale of merit than the compositions upon which they were founded; and that he has devoted his life to the production of an original work in the very highest department of literature.

There was, at one time, a prospect before Mr. Macaulay of being one of the men who *make*, instead of those who *write*, history; but his recent retirement from Parliament and from public life has, for awhile at least, closed up that avenue. In cultivating at leisure the literary pursuits that he loves, we trust that he, as well as the world, will be the gainer; and that his "History of England," when completed, will be worthy of so high a title. As yet the field is clear before him. The histories that have hitherto appeared are mostly bad or indifferent. Some are good, but not sufficiently good to satisfy the wants of the reader, or to render unnecessary the task of more enlightened, more impartial, more painstaking, and more elegant writers. There never was a work of art, whether in painting, sculpture, music, or literature, in which lynx-eyed criticism could not detect a flaw, or something deficient which

(Continued on page 280.)



BUST OF MR. ALISON, BY PARK

BUSTS OF MR. ALISON AND MR. MACAULAY.

(Continued from page 278.)

the lynx-eyed critic, and he alone, could have supplied. Mr. Macaulay's History has not escaped the ordeal, neither was it desirable that it should; but the real public opinion of the country has pronounced itself in his favour, and longs for the worthy completion of a task which has been worthily begun.

The bust of Mr. Macaulay, of which we have presented an Engraving, was executed shortly after that of Mr. Alison, by Mr. Patin Park, and is, we believe, in Mr. Macaulay's own possession. It is a very admirable likeness.



BUST OF MR. MACAULAY, BY PARK.

PICTURESQUE SKETCHES OF LONDON, PAST AND PRESENT.

BY THOMAS MILLER.

CHAPTER XXI.

THE ADELPHI ARCHES AND THE OLD STRAND.

THOSE noble streets which open into the Strand, now known as the Adelphi, are built above the ground formerly occupied by Durham House and its princely gardens, from whence Lady Jane Grey, the "nine days' Queen" (as our old chroniclers call her), was led, with loud acclaim, to the Tower, and then—in tears, to the scaffold. The ground itself on which she walked, and meditated, and saw her garden-flowers blow, is at noonday overhung with midnight darkness, excepting where, here and there, a gaslight throws its dim rays, and feebly illumines the cavernous gloom: where her youth and beauty once threw their sunshine a melancholy blackness now reigns—deeper and more solemn than what our Artist hath here pictured. To us this dark land is filled with sad associations; and, though the grave hath long since closed over those who placed

the crown upon her head, and then left her to bleed upon the block, we never walk through these sounding arches without thinking of their treachery.

Thousands who pass along the Strand never dream of the shadowy region which lies between them and the river—the black-browed arches that span right and left, before and behind, covering many a rood of ground on which the rain never beats nor the sunbeam sleeps, and at the entrance of which the wind only seems to howl and whine, as if afraid of venturing further into the darkness. Many of our readers will, no doubt, conclude that such a dreary place as this must be deserted and tenantless: such is not the case. Here many of those strong horses which the countryman who visits London looks upon with wonder and envy, are stabled—strong, broad-chested steeds, such as may be seen dragging the heavily-laden coal-waggons up those steep passages which lead into the Strand, and which seem "to the manner born."

Cows are also kept here, which, rumour says, never saw any other light beyond that of the gas which gleams through their prison-bars, or, by way of change, the cheering rays from a lantern, when they are milked or fed; that here many of them were calved, and have lived on, giving milk to a good old age—buried like the main-pipe that supplies us with water, and finding its way into our houses, without our once enquiring how. We have often pitied the London cows, which we have seen driven up one street and down another, and have fancied that what little milk they had must have been churned into indifferent butter, as they ran on, to escape the stones thrown after them by boys, while mongrels were ever sallying out, and either biting or barking at their heels; but we had not then seen those which are doomed to dwell in the unbroken darkness of the Adelphi arches, without ever breathing any other than the sepulchral air which stagnates in this murky purgatory. Assuredly, they ought to be taken out for a little fresh air now and then, and be led by the horns to

Fresh fields and pastures new;

for we can readily conceive how pleased and patiently they would go "blinking" along, compared to those horned blackguards who come with a butt and a "boo" at us as they return from Smithfield, and, before we have time to say "Sink, stupid!" pitch us over the battlements of one of the bridges, and leave us to swim.

The Adelphi arches form a little subterranean city; there is nothing like it in England: in some places you catch a glimpse of the river, a small loop-hole that lets in the light like the end of a railway tunnel, yet seeming to diminish

acre. Something like what it was in ancient days may yet be seen in those reedy and willowy inlets above the Red House, at Battersea; and could we have stood and looked across the river while the spot on which Westminster now stands was an island, covered with thorns, and down to the water-edge green flags and rushes, we should have seen far below what was called the Long Ditch, where the river divided, beside a low, lonely shore, on which the waves went lapping and surging, as they still do about those dreary bends that skirt the marshes of Woolwich: the fisherman—in his wicker coracle, covered with skin—would have been the only figure that moved beside the sedgy margin of that mastless river, over which the piping of the tufted plover would be heard. Such was once the now busy Strand of London; such the scene we should have gazed upon had we lived a few centuries ago.

Compared with these remote times, the period when a petition was presented for the repairing of the highway between Temple-bar and the Palace of Westminster, and in which the petitioners complained that the foot-road was so overgrown with thickets and bushes that the wayfarer had difficulty to get along—compared with these ancient days, the briery and thorny pathway seems to belong to modern history. Besides the bramble and thorny footpath there were three old bridges to cross between Temple-bar and the village of Charing, which spanned the sweet streams that came tinkling all the way from Highgate hills, passing along and edging the velvet green of many a pleasant meadow, like braids of silver, before they sent their sailing foam-bells into the bosom of the Thames. Ivy Bridge-lane and Strand Bridge-lane still mark the sites of two of these old bridges. The third was only discovered a few years ago; and, as it was but eleven feet long, every ancient stone might have been preserved and built up again over the Lee or some narrow water-course, so that we might have had another relic of bygone days to have looked upon, a bridge over which conqueror and captive had passed—tears and triumphs, from the Tower to Westminster, and from thence to the Tower again. Bolingbroke weeping—the hero of Agincourt—what a chapter could we have written on that old bridge, which was discovered while making a sewer near the Church of St. Clement the Dane! It had been buried so long that not an antiquary mentions it—nowhere is it recorded by our old historians. When it was discovered, it was broken up, removed, and no one seems to know what became of the fragments. Perhaps Alfred himself might have crossed that ancient bridge when he pursued the daring Sea-King Haestings; perhaps—But it is gone; and we should like to know the name of the surveyor who allowed it to be destroyed; in these pages he should have a "local habitation and a name" such as he deserves.

There are still standing in Holywell and Wych-street a few houses which bring before the eye the old London our forefathers inhabited—when Bluff Hal beheaded a wife before he breakfasted; and Queen Elizabeth measured not her words to her ministers if they offended her, and thought nothing of fetching a nobleman a "back hand tip," as she did the Earl of Essex, when not in a loving mood. In her endearing moments, we often picture her like a Grimalkin, at play with the king of the forest. We often wonder where Shakespeare was during the Sunday Essex broke out, and locked up the Queen's officers. We dare wager a silver groat, that he looked on that stormy scene in the Strand, and that, were he here to answer, we could point our pen to passages in his works which were suggested by what he either saw or heard on that memorable day.

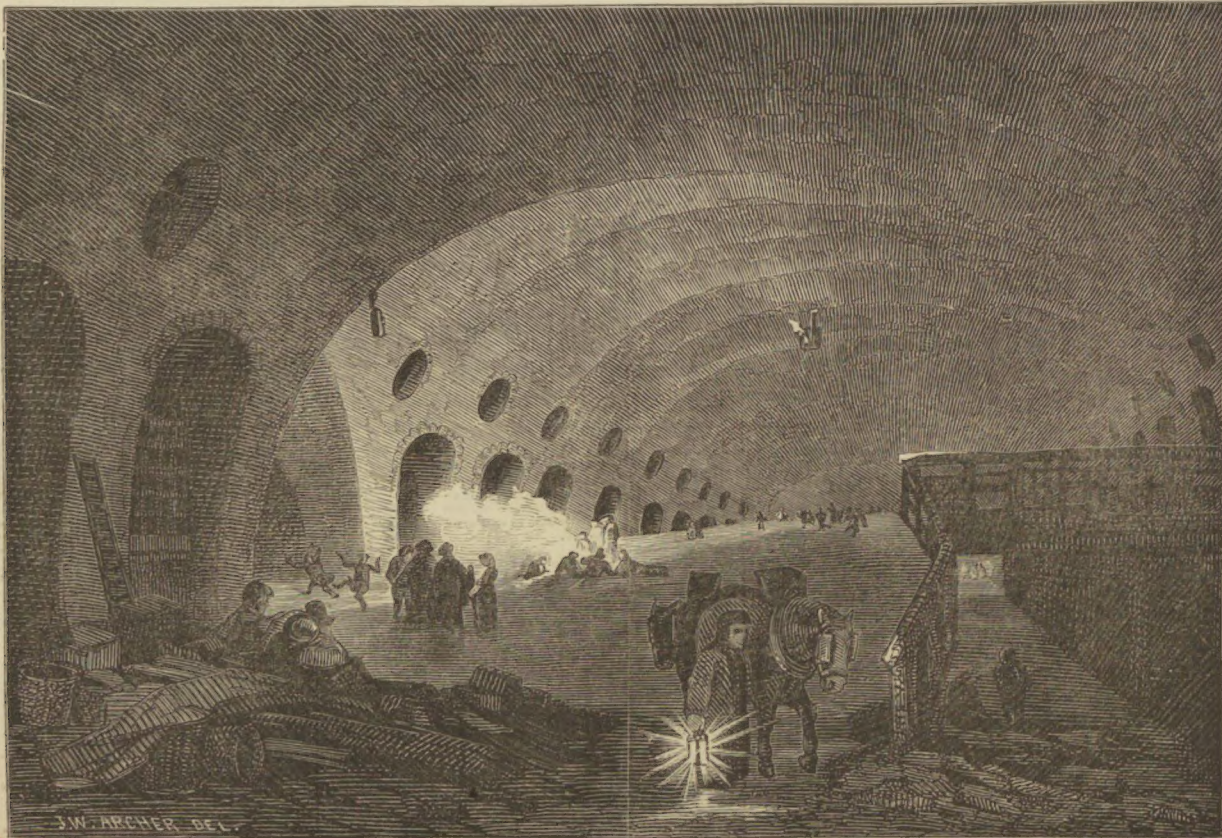
Who has not heard of the May-pole that stood in the Strand—how it was removed by command of the stern Protector Cromwell, and how, at the restoration of Charles, a new one was erected, amid the beating of drums and loud-sounding music, and the cheers of assembled thousands, who were weary of the puritanic gloom which had so long hung over Merry England. What a buzzing there would be in that neighbourhood on the occasion, while May-garlands hung across the streets, as we have often seen them in our day, in a few out-of-the-way old-fashioned towns, where the manners and customs of the people have undergone but little change during the last two centuries.

In contrast to these ancient merry makings, we must introduce another picture—London with its gibbet-posts, and Temple-bar with its human heads "grinning horribly" from the high poles on which they were stuck, as Horace Walpole saw them in his day; while the street itinerants reaped a harvest by charging one halfpenny for a peep through their spy-glasses to the sight-seers, who congregated to gaze upon the revolting spectacle. Add to these horrors the moveable gallows, which came rumbling through the thoroughfares like the fire-engines in the present day, when the criminal was executed at the very door where he had committed the crime for which he was doomed to suffer death.

The history of the old Savoy Palace, and other residences of the nobility, which formerly stood in the Strand, would each form a subject for a separate article were we to recount the scenes which have been acted in "those little theatres," but they are too important to come within the limits of a series of light and picturesque sketches like these. The homes of our ancient nobles are all swept away with the exception of Northumberland House, and in place of them we have Waterloo and the Suspension Bridges, spanning over and opening into those once quaint trim pleasures—spots where the summer-bowers of many a departed beauty formerly stood.

How the warlike old Barons would stare in wonderment, if it were possible that they could again "revisit the glimpses of the moon," and see the rent-roll produced from the ground on which their towered and loop-holed palaces stood—could peep at the productions exhibited at the Society of Arts, in the Adelphi, and look back again upon the days when a flexible gauntlet, that could guard the hand, yet give freedom to the grasp—or a visor, through which they could see, yet with the bars so tempered as to resist the point of a lance, were considered as the greatest wonders of art. How they would rub their dim old eyes at the sight of an express-train; stare at a steamer, and think what a smash and a crash a couple would have made, to have run into each other at their water quintains. Then, to send a message from Tilbury Fort to Kenilworth by the electric telegraph, where the amorous old Queen was coquetting with Leicester, and she ignorant of such an invention, to tell her that the Spanish Armada was coming, would have consigned the messenger who came from the station to something like the Spanish Inquisition, if not a stake at Smithfield. Oh, that we had a photographic portrait of the dear old lady, with all those nicely marked shadows to which she had so great an objection, down to the "cunning wrinkles round her eyes." But we have again reached

"The outmost shore, so drop our little sail."



PICTURESQUE SKETCHES OF LONDON.—THE ADELPHI "DRY ARCHES."

more than these tunnels, on account of the steep descent, until one of the steamers, in passing, appears to fill up the opening like a half-closed door. Beside the arches there are narrow passages which go dipping down to the water-side, where on either hand houses stand looking at one another in the openings between the darkness. There is a dismal and solitary look about these tall imprisoned houses; you cannot conceive how they are entered, for there appears to be no way to them, and you conclude that they are empty. Or, if they are inhabited, you wonder if the people ever look out of those dim, dirt-ditched windows at the dead-looking walls opposite. We have turned back, and hunted up and down looking from below, but nowhere could we obtain a view of

the entrance to those murderous-looking houses. We once saw a butterfly which had lost its way, and got into the little light which had stolen out to look at the entrance of these arches: it went up and down, and hither and thither, seeming to become feebler every moment, as if it had given up all hope of ever swinging with folded wings, like a pea-bloom, on the flowers again, and we doubted not but that it found a grave amid the green decay of some rotten water-butt.

But we must turn backward, and endeavour to obtain a view of this ancient neighbourhood, as it looked when the Roman city stood upon the hill; and this, as it is still called, was a low, waste, and reedy Strand, over which the tide came and went, and rocked the tufted reeds which waved over many a surrounding

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